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Baton Rouge, La.

THE
# SUGAR BULLETIN

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We stand for the encouragement of Home Industries as against Foreign Competition.

Vol. ~~14~~ 15 NEW ORLEANS, LA., OCTOBER 1, 1936 No. ~~25~~ 1

## Address of President R. L. Baker

*Delivered at the 14th Annual Meeting of the American Sugar Cane League, September 24th, 1936*

*Gentlemen*:

I feel that it is proper for me, as President of the League, to say a few words to you at our Annual Meeting.

When you did me the great honor of electing me to the Presidency of our organization a year ago, it was at a time when our industry found itself completely under the control of the National Government and everything that we did, individually or collectively, was done to meet the various requirements of the Federal authorities. Some three and a half months after my election the Agricultural Adjustment Act was declared unconstitutional and while this released us from a great deal of detail work its net result was to do away with the compensation we had been receiving in the shape of benefit payments and leave us still restricted in the amount of sugar that we have the permission of the Government to produce, for the quota system was not affected by the decision. So far as the present crop is concerned this does not seriously curtail our operations because due to an increase in consumption the Government has found it necessary to temporarily increase the quota of Louisiana and Florida from 260,000 tons to 388,738 tons, which is not far from the figure that the two States mentioned will probably reach. But it must be remembered that this larger figure is allowed for this year only. The point I want to bring out forcibly in regard to all this is that we must use every effort at our command to get legislation through the next Congress that will give full freedom of production to the sugar mills and cane growers and beet growers of the United States, while at the same time protecting them from unlimited imports of cheaply-made sugar from abroad. To me that seems to be the most important task that stands before us.

I am a cane grower President and so it is perhaps natural that my mind should dwell a great deal on the agricultural side of our industry. None of us can overestimate the importance of the new cane varieties that we have been supplied with and which we are now cultivating on a commercial scale in every Parish of our sugar belt. It is needless for me to say that had these canes not been found and introduced among us, none of us would be in the sugar business today. All of you know that to be a fact. It is an important feature of this "varietal work" as it is generally called, that it possesses a continuous character and that newer and still newer varieties are constantly forthcoming so that any deterioration or degeneration of those that were earlier introduced can be offset by planting a variety that is newer and better. We are passing through a stage now in which we have to make such replacements very frequently. I do not know whether this will always be the case, or whether a cane, or a few different types of cane, will eventually be found that will be suited to our Louisiana soil and climate so well that they will flourish in this environment indefinitely. We do know that such a goal has not yet been reached and the point I want to bring out and stress as strongly as I can in connection with this matter is that we must realize the tremendous necessity for a continuation of the varietal work by the scientific men, both Federal and State, who are doing it for us and we must lend them our aid and our encouragement and our gratitude and our applause. They are leading us over a bridge that is not yet secure on its foundations. It is a time and a situation that calls for intelligent and careful team work until we are safely ashore.

Many of us here today are confronted with certain problems—certain very expensive problems—that have to do with the benefit payments owing to us by the Government and the penalties that the Government proposes to assess against these payments because of alleged non-compliance with some of the numerous restrictive clauses attached to the benefit payment contracts into which we entered. I would be glad indeed if I were able to suggest some means by

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THE
# SUGAR BULLETIN

407 Carondelet St., New Orleans

Reginald Dykers, Editor

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The American Cane Growers' Assn.
The Producers & Mfrs. Protective Assn.
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which the injustices that are likely to be done us can be avoided but I am unable to do so. Procedure is complicated by the fact that should we attempt to protect our rights by legal action it may, and probably will, result in the Government not only holding up the payments in those cases that are involved in dispute but holding up all the others as well. I want to tell you that this problem has been given most earnest thought by the Executive Committee and the Legislative Committee of our organization. I state this at this time lest there be some who may think that because no word has come to them of anything being done about the $2.00 and $3.00 penalties it is likely that the matter has been neglected. Nothing could be further from the facts. It is under constant consideration and I hope and believe we may be able, as an industry, to avoid in some manner the loss represented by these penalties which I am told will aggregate for our sugar district something like two million dollars. The League's Legislative Committee will, I know, welcome ideas and suggestions that are of a constructive and helpful sort, in this connection.

It seems to me that not only our industry but all industries, are rapidly becoming more and more complicated and difficult to follow because of the mass of legislation, Federal, State, Parish and Municipal, that affects them. Some of this legislation is fiscal and is born of the insatiable demand for more money by every political subdivision of our Government. Some of it is regulatory and designed to keep people engaged in business from doing things considered wrong or undesirable or unfair, but whatever the purpose is it complicates the business life of our communities immeasurably. Such conditions make it more necessary than ever for industries and businesses to be organized to safeguard themselves from injustices, intentional or accidental.

This thought brings me naturally to some comment on our own organization, the American Sugar Cane League, of which I am very proud indeed to be the President. Our General Manager tells me that the paid membership of the League, at this date, is 7771. If seven is a lucky number we need only six more members to make us stand very high with Lady Luck. All joking aside, however, I am impressed with that membership. I am convinced that outside some of the great National organizations like the American Farm Bureau Federation and the American Federation of Labor and others that have the whole country as their field, it has not often been surpassed. I have in mind some sugar factories, less than half a dozen, which by themselves, if they cooperated with the League by collecting the dues of their numerous cane shippers for us as the other factories do, and by paying their own dues, would raise our total membership to 10,000. I am sorry this lack of cooperation exists on the part of these few factories and I have done, and will continue to do, whatever I can to remedy it. I am convinced that if the League was about to go out of business these factories would be greatly disturbed. They know they need the League just as much as the rest of us and they want it to keep on functioning just as much as the rest of us do. That is just what makes the problem of their non-membership such a hard one.

Our membership is unique in that it embraces both factory owners and cane growers, both buyers and sellers of some fifteen million dollars worth of raw material, and I can truthfully say after one year's experience as chief executive of the League that I have found no antagonism of any consequence in its ranks and only a sincere spirit of cooperation in behalf of our industry as a whole. There is a motto that was offered for the guidance of our organization at the time it was formed 14 years ago which was never officially adopted but which I think we might well consider as being one of our principles. It was, as I recall it, something to the effect that the purpose of the American Sugar Cane League was not to take sides between any groups engaged in either the cane growing or the manufacturing ends of the Louisiana sugar industry but to advance the common cause against outside interference. As a matter of fact that is what we have done under my administration and I believe also under all the administrations preceding mine. Another good motto is the one that appears in red ink on the front page of our *Bulletin*, "We stand for the encouragement of Home Industries as Against Foreign Competition." It seems to me that in those two little mottoes we have a field of action laid down for us that is big enough to keep us very, very busy.

I do not want to close my Annual Address without paying well deserved tribute to our Washington Manager, Mr. Bourg, and to the Chairmen and members of the various standing committees. The deli-

cate problems and situations that have had to be handled at our Washington office in the past 12 months have been very many and they could not have been handled had not our representative been a man of great tact and intelligence and one whose years of experience fitted him to handle them. The coming year, bringing as it will a new Congress, possibly a new President, and, in any case bringing legislation vitally affecting our industry and perhaps embracing in its terms some permanent government policy for sugar, will tax all our resources of brains and money. We are fortunately strong and well prepared and our auditor's report shows a good supply of the sinews of war which I think is a subject for congratulations. Our General Manager has maintained his record of having never disappointed us on the financial side of our affairs. An organization without money in its treasury is in a very helpless fix. We are fortunately not in any such condition. I look forward to the inevitable battle that is before us in Washington hopefully and confidently.

I thank you.

## Louisiana Crop Statistics

We are puzzled by the persistent way in which the Crop Reporting Board of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics keeps playing down the size of the Louisiana sugar crop. Last year Louisiana produced 333,000 short tons, on the Crop Reporting Board's own figures, which were not released, however, until July 8th, 1936. Prior to such release the Crop Reporting Board made the following forecasts:

On December 20th, 1935 they forecast a crop of 291,000 tons.

On November 13th, 1935 they forecast a crop of 242,000 tons.

On October 1st, 1935 they forecast a crop of 239,000 tons.

On September 13th, 1935 they forecast a crop of 242,000 tons.

On August 1st, 1935 they forecast a crop of 242,000 tons.

On July 1st, 1935 they forecast a crop of 242,000 tons.

The average of these forecasts, one of which was made December 20th when the crop was almost over, is 249,666 tons. The actual outturn by their own figures was 333,000 tons, all other compilations that we know of showing even more than that. They missed it, on an average, by slightly more than 25% and even in the case of their forecast made December 20th, with most of the crop in the bag, they missed it by almost 10%. Furthermore, and as an additional fillip to our astonishment, they held up their final admission of 333,000 tons until July 8th, or let us say until the adjournment of Congress, although their rule has always been to release the final figures on the Louisiana crop in May.

Coming now to 1936 we find the U. S. Crop Reporting Board issuing a forecast on September 10th, 1936, when the growth, acreage and stand of the Louisiana cane crop is a matter of observation and not a matter of speculation, of 289,000 tons of sugar, when the general opinion of other observers is that the crop this year will nearly equal that of last year.

The kind of crop reporting the Crop Reporting Board of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics did last year on the Louisiana sugar crop was rather amateurish and it will take a good deal of evidence to convince us that incompetence in the local office of the Board is responsible.

## Senator Overton's Plan for Handling the Quota System

*(By C. J. Bourg)*

Current developments in the sugar market which have depressed the price to the extent of 30 points in one week's time, are a glaring example of the necessity for definite provisions of law regarding the method used to estimate consumption requirements, and the time when as well as the method used for the allotment of quotas to sugar producing areas. The provisions of the Overton Bill introduced at the last Session of Congress, if enacted into law, would definitely prevent the quota system from resulting in losses to the domestic sugar industry, such as are now contemplated unless the consumption requirements are revised downward in accordance with the well known fact in all sugar circles that there is too much quota sugar available in 1936.

It is appropriate to discuss the plan proposed by Senator Overton because just at this time when the Louisiana sugar industry is about to begin its grinding season in the face of a declining market because of an over-estimate of consumption and unnecessary reallocations of quotas by anticipation, we believe that better appreciation of the merit and practical statesmanship of the Overton proposal will be obtained.

In the first place, the Secretary of Agriculture would not be given the discretion of revising consumption estimates and quotas when the spirit moved him, nor would he be authorized to use "available statistics of the Department of Agriculture" without limitation. On the contrary, the plan would be to have the estimate of consumption based on the actual amount of sugar distributed for consumption in continental United States during the next preceding calendar year. But a reserve of 5% would be deducted to take care of the possibility of a decrease, and only 95% of the previous year's consumption would be allotted in quotas.

The plan would further provide that from the estimate of consumption should first be deducted the actual production of sugar beets and sugarcane in continental United States during the next preceding calendar year, or 135% of the total inventories of undistributed sugar on January 1st in the possession of sugarcane and sugar beet processors, produced from sugarcane or sugar beets in continental United States. It is established that continental processors have never distributed more than 135% of the January 1st inventory during the current calendar year, but if the previous year's production was greater, then the greater figure would be used. Then having allowed for all available continental sugar, the balance would be allotted in quotas to the off-shore areas on the basis of their present basic percentages used in determining the initial quotas. This would mean that there would be no restriction on production or distribution of continental sugar.

The initial quotas having been established at the beginning of the year, the plan would provide that

there should be no change in quotas until September 1st. In this way, there would be no possibility of sudden announcements to depress and unsettle the market. There would also be the cushion of 5% to prevent any area from exhausting its quota in advance of the revision, in case it was necessary to revise downward. This September 1st revision would not be just based upon available statistics (which are available to the Secretary of Agriculture but not to the sugar industry at the time of announcing quotas), but would be based upon the actual consumption of the previous 7 months as compared to the same 7 months period in the previous year. In this way changes in consumption requirements would be reflected in the September 1st revision. However, instead of allotting quotas to fill 95% of the consumption requirements, as would have been done in the initial quotas, the September 1st revision would be on the basis of 98% of the consumption requirements as revised.

Then on December 1st, in order to avoid market manipulations, squeezes or local shortages, a final revision in the consumption estimates would be made. This final revision of the quota would then be based on 100% of the consumption requirements, which will have been determined by a comparison of the consumption of the first 10 months in the current year and the first 10 months in the next preceding calendar year.

Without entering into a detailed discussion of the administration of the quota system under the Overton Bill, it must become readily apparent to all readers that the adoption of such a plan would remove the possibilities of sudden revision of the quota based upon early estimates of consumption according to the statistics available only to the Secretary of Agriculture. It would give the sugar industry the security of knowing that quota changes would only be made on certain dates in each year and would be based upon sugar statistics well known to the sugar industry concerned.

For the protection of the consumer, in addition to the fact that all areas have sugar available in the first several months of each calendar year, the Overton Bill provides that should any producing area be unable to or fail to fill its quota of sugar, the Secretary of Agriculture would be authorized to revise and adjust quotas of other producing areas so as to pro-rate the deficiency. This provision would prevent a shortage in the case of a hurricane or a drought or other Act of God, and would prevent any area withdrawing from the market while it still has sugar available. These provisions would undoubtedly induce an orderly flow of sugar in the United States markets at a price reasonable and in proportion to what the consumer pays for other agricultural foods.

Just at this time we are unable to secure any assurances from the AAA that permits will not be issued in December, 1936, to allow 1937 over-quota sugar to be released from customs custody, refined and marketed in 1936 in violation of the spirit and the substance of the sugar quota system. It is hardly to be expected that such undermining of the quota system will be permitted under present conditions, with a surplus of sugar already depressing the market, but we can only judge by experience, and we hardly expected in 1935 that over-quota sugars would be authorized to be marketed just at the time when the continental beet and cane new-crops were coming on the market.

We have engaged in the above discussion for the primary purpose of indicating to the domestic sugar industry the necessity of getting solidly behind the Overton Bill, or one carrying similar provisions, during the next Session of Congress.

# Farm Chemurgy Will Greet Us Soon

*(By Wm. L. Owen, Consulting Bacteriologist, Baton Rouge, La.)*

The approaching meeting of the Southern Chemurgic Conference in Lafayette in October, provides the occasion for a critical survey of the potentialities of the by products of our field and factories, and an appraisal of their value for Chemurgic usages.

In a previous article in the columns of this paper, I have attempted to outline some of the possibilities in the utilization of our wastes, but it is highly essential that we should not further delay making individual appraisals of these unutilized products of our fields and factories, and of making a Chemurgic cost account of their possibilities.

The writer would emphasize the importance of the various groups of factory operators, undertaking at the beginning of the coming harvesting season, the following field tests:—

### Tentative Plan for the Conservation of Cane Tops For the Production of Alcohol

1. Determination of ratio of tops to weight free from leaves of millable cane in principal varieties now grown on the plantations in Louisiana.
2. Determination of weight of millable tops per acre.
3. Estimation of harvesting of tops (1) By Ton, (2) per acre.
4. Determination of percentage of extraction in cane tops.
5. Analyses of juice from cane tops.
6. Yield of alcohol per ton of tops.
   Actual tests from fermentation experiments.
   Tests of fermentation efficiencies on sugars present in juice from tops.
7. Determination of keeping quality of tops.
   Windrowing of tops from principal varieties.
   Determination of brix sucrose and acidity at harvest (2) Middle of Grinding season, (3) At end of grinding season.
8. Ratio of tops to millable canes at
   (1) Beginning of season
   (2) Middle of grinding season
   (3) At end of harvest.
9. Conservation of Trash.
   a. Composting with filter press mud
   b. Distillery slop.

### Development of Plans

1. From a weighed amount of whole cane including tops, but with trash removed, the tops are removed and weighed.
2. From a measured portion of an acre, or from a definite number of rows the clean tops, or millable portion, are weighed, and the ratio of the latter to the millable cane determined.
3. Cost of labor for harvesting clean tops estimated from time required for operation.
4. The clean tops as above obtained, are run through a laboratory mill, and the extraction,

compared with that of the mill cane put through the same milling process.

5. Analyses of juice as extracted as above described.
6. For determination of alcohol yields, fresh juice from tops can be obtained from the Louisiana Experiment Station and submitted to actual fermentation tests, under different treatment and using various strains of yeast.
7. In order to determine the keeping quality of tops some of the principal varieties should be windrowed throughout the grinding season, and changes in the composition of the juice observed. Small piles of these tops could be laid down and windrowed, and mill tests made at the end of the season.
8. In view of the fact that low topping has frequently to be resorted to in the early part of the grinding season the ratio of millable tops to millable cane will vary at the different stages of the maturity of the cane. It is very important to determine this variation so as to enable us to make an adequate appraisal of the total yield of tops from our entire crop.
9. We will have several composting experiments with cane trash and filter press muds, to observe changes in the C. N. Ratio, and to determine whether this ratio can be brought within such limits that will insure that no further nitrate depression occurs upon addition to our soils.

Cooperation in the above tests has been very kindly tendered the writer by Asst. Director, W. G. Taggart, of the Louisiana Experiment Station and also by Mr. Elliott Jones, and Mr. Carl Nadler of Realty Operators, Inc., of Houma, and by Mr. George Arcenaux of the Federal Exp. Station at Houma.

However, it is greatly to be desired that this list of cooperators be materially augmented, so that conditions over all parts of the Louisiana Sugar Belt may be ascertained. This is especially important during the earlier part of the grinding season, when the maturity of the crop may vary greatly in the extreme northern and southern limits of the cane area.

If the estimates which the writer has been able to make as based upon all data at present available, are correct, we have indeed been destroying relatively enormous sources of alcohol. But it is more than likely that these estimates underrate the potentialities of cane tops for alcohol production, in view of the fact that we have no data on total fermentable sugars in this material but only sucrose and Brix. Furthermore we have no figures on extraction, and our assumption on this phase of the utilizability of the material, is certainly very modest indeed.

However, of most importance are the factors of (1) Cost of harvesting the material and (2) Tonnages of Millable tops per acre, and (3) The deterioration of the juice of the tops in windrows.

Fortunately all of this data is easily obtainable, and if sufficient interest can be aroused on the subject we can during the course of one season's operations, confirm or refute the theory of the profitability of this refuse from our fields.

Should these estimates of profit prove by experience to be unrealizable, then we can return to the burning of these tops with a clearer conscience, knowing

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precisely how much fermentable sugars, we are thereby destroying.

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Or to state it in a different way, the tops from our total cane acreage in Louisiana, has a potential alcohol content approximately equivalent to that from 180,000 acres of corn.

It is high time that we definitely ascertained the potentialities of this material, and the writer would welcome any suggestions on the tentative program as given above, and any offers of definite cooperation during the coming harvesting season.

## International Society of Sugar Cane Technologists

*Editor Sugar Bulletin*:

The Sixth Congress of the International Society of Sugar Cane Technologists will be held in Louisiana in October-November, 1938. Most of the sugarcane technologists in various parts of the world are members of this Society, and many of these men will attend the Louisiana Congress. This will be a great opportunity for Louisiana sugar men to meet the sugar investigators from other parts of the world, and to learn what is being done elsewhere. We in Louisiana, on the other hand, must put this Congress across in such a way that it will not only be profitable and instructive to the foreign delegates, but enjoyable as well. We want to make this one of the most successful Sugar Congresses ever held.

The delegates to this Congress will assemble in New Orleans. Possibly two days will be spent in the city visiting the sugar industries there. Then about four or five days will be spent in the sugar belt visiting factories and fields. The delegates will then be taken to Baton Rouge and the scientific meetings of the Society will be held at the Louisiana State University.

At this time various committees are being appointed to take over certain duties. Others will doubtless be appointed later.

*Very truly yours,*

*C. W. Edgerton,*
*General Secretary-Treasurer*
International Society of Sugar Cane Technologists.

## Sugarcane Growers Make Gains Through Better Planting Practices

(*Sent to the Sugar Bulletin by the U. S. Department of Agriculture*)

A good stand of sugarcane, essential for good yields in Louisiana depends a great deal upon three major factors—time, depth and rate of planting, says E. V. Abbott of the Bureau of Plant Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture. It is assumed, of course, that disease resistant varieties are planted.

A good stand requires that cuttings germinate well. Best results are obtained from plantings in early August. October 1 to November 10, and in the


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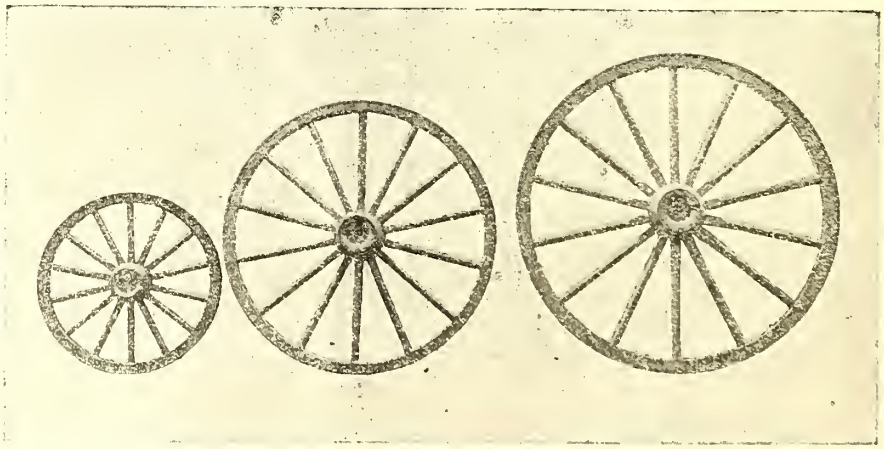

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spring. Each period has its advantages and disadvantages, although August plantings of some varieties generally result in high germination and a good stand the following spring.

Early August plantings offer some relief from the fall rush of work and escape danger of red rot which occurs frequently in fall plantings. The cuttings germinate quickly, get a good root growth before winter freezes and are firmly established when the growing season starts in the spring. For this same reason late August and September plantings are undesirable. The plants start growth but do not become firmly enough established to withstand winter freezes.

Plantings in the fall, October 1 to November 10, will lie dormant through the winter months and in most instances show successful germination the following spring. However, this long period in the ground may induce red rot damage.

The principal drawback to spring planting is the care and expense necessary to carry the cane cuttings through the winter.

There is considerable difference in opinion as to the depth of planting, although Abbott believes the average grower tends to cover his seed cuttings too deeply.

"While covering too shallow will cause seed to dry out," he comments, "covering too deep, say in excess of six inches, will delay and often prevent germination. Deep covering also favors spread of red rot, which develops more rapidly in dormant than in actively growing cane."

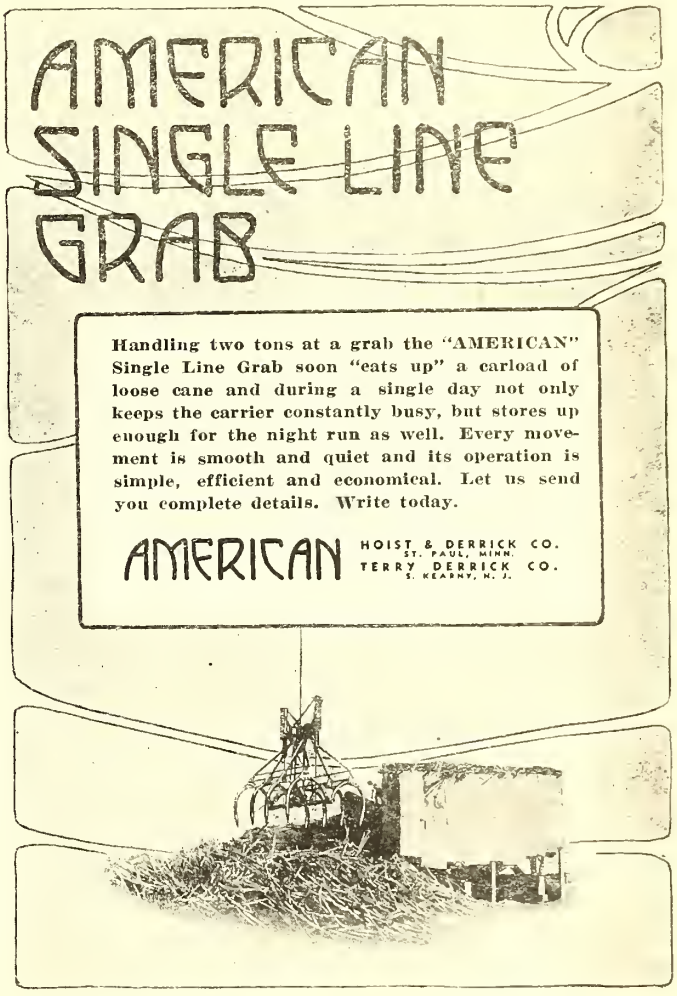
In the opinion of the Department pathologist, a covering of five to six inches is sufficient for fall or summer planting. Washing effects of winter rains will reduce this to about four inches by the time the plants start growing in the spring. Best stands result where the soil is well pulverized and packs well about the seed cane.

Rate of planting varies with different varieties. Counts in plantation fields show that from two to two and one-half tons of the P.O.J. cane cuttings per acre are required for a good stand. Varieties such as the Co. 290, with longer joints and greater diameter of stalk, require up to four tons an acre.

It is desirable to choose cane cuttings free of mosaic disease, Abbott warns. Some planters not only are roguing seed stock but go a step farther in establishing seed plots of all commercial varieties, where the seed cane can be given heavier fertilization and other special treatment not practicable in growing mill cane. For early August plantings, where quick germination is an advantage, many growers also are topping seed cane about a week before it is cut. This causes the eyes to swell before planting and hastens germination.

## 1936 Cane Contract

Mr. M. J. Voorhies, Chairman of the Grower-Processor Committee, stated on Sept. 29th that the number of sugar factories that had agreed up to that date to use the form of contract proposed by the Grower-Processor Committee was 34, and that he expected additional ones to come in. The notice sent out by Mr. Voorhies Sept. 21st requested that acceptances be filed with him by Sept. 28th.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THE
# SUGAR BULLETIN

Entered as second-class matter April 13, 1925, at the post office at New Orleans, La., under Act of March 6, 1879.

We stand for the encouragement of Home Industries as against Foreign Competition.

Vol. 15 NEW ORLEANS, LA., OCTOBER 15, 1936 No. 2

## Present Confusion Forecasts Future Conclusions

*(By C. J. Bourg)*

Frank admission must be made that we are in a state of confusion as a result of attempting to comprehend and follow the policies and objectives of the AAA with regard to the domestic sugar industry.

At the beginning of the calendar year 1936, the Secretary of Agriculture estimated that the consumption of sugar for the year would be 6,434,088 tons. On April 10th the Secretary revised his consumption estimate by increasing it to 6,609,625. On July 2nd the Secretary of Agriculture increased the quotas for sugar requirements to 6,812,687 short tons raw value. We have asked the Sugar Section, AAA, for the "available statistics" upon which were determined these increases in the estimate of consumption requirements and correspondingly in the quotas, but we are informed that no statistics are available to us except such as may have been published officially by the Department of Agriculture regularly and by the Sugar Section periodically. We therefore have no alternative except to make an effort to select those figures upon which the Secretary of Agriculture must have based his determinations. Frankly, we could analyze the "available statistics" much more intelligently if we were told which figures were used and had explained to us why they were selected.

We do find that published statistics on the deliveries for consumption indicated in June that the consumption requirements of the United States for 1936 would be greater than they were for the corresponding period in 1935, but we also find in the statistics published by the Sugar Section on September 26th that for the first eight months of 1936 the deliveries for consumption are actually 1.37% lower than they were during the first eight months of 1935. This obviously shows that the upward trend of consumption which existed in June was changed completely and has become a very definite downward trend as compared to 1935.

We also find that the actual consumption of sugar in 1935 was 6,632,687 short tons raw value, which is 180,171 tons less than the present estimate of consumption requirements by the Secretary of Agriculture as indicated by the total quotas available for distribution in 1936.

Now, if the present downward trend continues for the last four months of 1936, at the rate of 1.37%, there would be 271,000 short tons surplus quota sugar. We recognize that there is a question about the "normal" carry-over of sugar by refiners as of January 1st. But every student of the market knows that normalcy in carry-overs has been drastically changed since the quota system went into effect. What was a normal carry-over prior to 1934, was not subject to the considerations that are forced through the fact that there is a sudden change as of January 1st in the matter of supply and demand because in December the quota sugars become exhausted and in January the full impact of the total quotas being made available completely reverses the situation over-night. The effect on the market in the past has been to create an abnormal difference in price between December deliveries and January deliveries, amounting to as much as a 40 point premium for December deliveries. The existence of so much more quota sugar than is expected to be required for consumption purposes in 1936, has presently had the effect of bringing the November quotations down to the January price, all of which is very harmful to the grower whose price per pound of sugarcane is dependent to a very large extent upon the market price of sugar in November and December.

If we may judge the Secretary of Agriculture's attitude from his letter to the Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, dated May 7, 1936, the Secretary is inclined to price fixing at some point approximating 3½c for raw sugar. The several revisions in quotas made this year were coincident with rising market prices for raw sugar, and the present market is recognized by everybody in sugar circles as being the result of an over-supply of quota sugars made available through increased estimate of consumption require-

THE
# SUGAR BULLETIN

407 Carondelet St., New Orleans

Reginald Dykers, Editor

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The Louisiana Sugar Planters' Assn.
The American Cane Growers' Assn.
The Producers & Mfrs. Protective Assn.
Subscription Price, 50 Cents per Year.

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ments. The net result is that the law of supply and demand has been practically nullified and the buyers of sugar have no reason to be concerned about the supply which naturally lessens their demand.

If the price of sugar were out of reason today or even if the price of sugar had followed the increase in cost of foods, the position of the Secretary of Agriculture could be justified in the sense of good public policy for the protection of the consumer. But the Department of Labor has just issued an official report showing that sugar is selling at a price 20% less than the average retail cost of all foods. This Department of Labor report also shows that as of September 15, 1936, the cost of all foods had increased since November 15, 1935, 5.3%, while in the corresponding period of one year the retail price of sugar had decreased 1.6%. The sugar market shows that the wholesale price of refined sugar during this period last year was 5.30c, although the present wholesale price of refined sugar is listed at 4.75c, and one refiner sold October deliveries at 4.45c and is now quoting 4.50c for November and December deliveries. If we may judge from the statistics of the Department of Labor, the consumer is not receiving the full benefit of the decrease in market prices on raw sugar. At the same time we know that the sugarcane grower and sugar beet grower are suffering definite losses. We submit that there is reason for our confusion, just as there is reason for our determination to ask the next Session of Congress to withdraw the discretionary powers given the Secretary under the Jones-Costigan Act and to put into the law the exact procedure under which the sugar quota system is to be administered.

## Farm Chemurgic Council

The Southern Conference of the Farm Chemurgic Council will be held at the Southwestern Louisiana Institute, Lafayette, La., on October 15th, 16th and 17th. The Conference is being held under the auspices of the Lafayette, La., and Beaumont, Texas, Chambers of Commerce and a very ambitious and comprehensive program has been formulated. The Governor of Louisiana, Hon. Richard W. Leche, will deliver one address of welcome at the opening of the Conference at 10 A. M. October 15th, and the Mayor of Lafayette, Hon. J. M. Roy, will deliver another. Hon. J. E. McDonald, Commissioner of Agriculture of Texas, will respond. Mr. P. B. Doty, President of the First National Bank of Beaumont, Texas, will preside over the opening session. The program for the remainder of the first day, and for October 16th and 17th, is as follows:

ADDRESSES

THE ORIGIN AND PURPOSES OF FARM CHEMURGIC—Mr. Carl B. Fritsche, Managing Director, Farm Chemurgic Council, Dearborn, Mich.

THE UTILIZATION OF FARM WASTES—Dr. Henry G. Knight, Chief, Bureau of Chemistry and Soils, Washington, D. C.

CHEMURGY IN LEGISLATION—Honorable Robert L. Mouton.

Announcements: Dr. H. L. Griffin, Chairman of Local Committee, Dean, College of Liberal Arts, Southwestern Louisiana Institute.

12:00 NOON

Luncheon, Banquet Hall, Evangeline Hotel, for Representatives of Farm Chemurgic, Committee Members, and Speakers, meeting with the Lafayette Rotary Club.
Presiding: President E. L. Stephens, Southwestern Louisiana Institute.

1:30 P. M.

Tour of the Evangeline Country

Courtesy cars will take visitors to Evangeline Park and Oak, St. John Sugar Factory, Godchaux' Rice Mill, Jefferson Island Salt Mine and the Peoples Cotton Oil Mill.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16

9:00 A. M.

General Topic: Cotton and Its By-Products.
Presiding: Mr. Victor Schoffelmayer, Agricultural Editor, Dallas Morning News.

ADDRESS

COTTON IN THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC LIFE OF THE SOUTH—Mr. N. C. Williamson, President, American Cotton Cooperative Association, New Orleans, La.

PAPERS

COTTON IN ROAD BUILDING—Mr. Charles K. Everett, Manager, New Uses Section, Cotton Textile Institute, New York.

THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE OF DOMESTIC FATS AND OILS—Dr. J. S. Abbott, Secretary, American Margarine Institute, Washington, D. C.

NEW USES FOR COTTON SEED OIL—Mr. A. L. Ward, Director, Educational Service, National Cotton Seed Products Association, Dallas, Texas.

DESIRABILITY OF ESTABLISHING IN THE SOUTHERN COTTON BELT A RESEARCH INSTITUTE—Dr. A. B. Conner, Director, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, College Station, Texas.
Discussion Leader: Mr. Donald Comer, President, American Cotton Manufacturers Association, Avondale Mills, Birmingham, Alabama.

2:00 P. M.

General Topic: Sugarcane and Its By-Products.
Presiding: Mr. C. D. Kemper, Manager, Sterling Sugars, Inc., New Orleans, La.

ADDRESSES

THE SUGAR INDUSTRY AS A VITAL FACTOR IN OUR NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SYSTEM—Dr. J.

A. Brock, Educational Secretary Farmers and Manufacturers Beet Sugar Association.

ECONOMIC PROBLEMS OF THE SUGARCANE INDUSTRY—Mr. C. D. Kemper.

PAPERS

MANUFACTURE OF ALCOHOL FROM SUGARCANE BY-PRODUCTS—Dr. W. L. Owen, Consulting Bacteriologist, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

INDUSTRIAL UTILIZATION OF SUGARCANE FIBERS—Dr. T. B. Munroe, Vice President, Celotex Corporation, Chicago, Ill.

THE USE OF BAGASSE IN ANIMAL FEED AND PLANT MULCHES—Mr. Walter Godchaux, Vice President, Godchaux Sugars, Inc., New Orleans, La.

PROGRESS IN CHEMURGY—Dr. Harry E. Barnard, Director of Research, Farm Chemurgic Council, Dearborn, Michigan.

Discussion Leaders: Dr. Charles E. Coates, Dean, College of Applied Science, Louisiana State University; Dr. Frederick J. Bates, Bureau of Standards, Washington, D. C.

7:00 P. M.

Banquet, Southwestern Louisiana Institute Dining Hall
Songs by Southwestern Male Quartet
Dances by Young Women Students of Southwestern
Toastmaster, Mr. P. B. Doty.

ADDRESSES

THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF CHEMURGY—Mr. Wheeler McMillen, Editor, Country Home, New York.

WHAT CHEMURGY CAN DO FOR THE SOUTH—Mr. Howard E. Coffin, Chairman of the Board, Southeastern Cottons, Incorporated, New York.

CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES IN THE SOUTH—Mr. James A. Lee, Managing Editor, Chemical and Metallurgical Engineering, New York.

CHEMURGIC CROPS IN PICTURES—Arthur Lawrence, Luling Foundation, Luling, Texas.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17

FINAL SESSION

9:00 A. M.

General Topic: Rice, Sweet Potatoes, Wood Pulp, Naval Stores, Tung Oil, Soy Beans.

Presiding: Hon. Harry D. Wilson, Commissioner of Agriculture and Immigration, Louisiana

PAPERS

THE AMERICAN RICE INDUSTRY—Mr. W. M. Reid, Executive Secretary, American Rice Millers Association, New Orleans, La.

WIDER USES FOR RICE AND ITS BY-PRODUCTS—Mr. H. E. Gardner, C. E., Beaumont, Texas, (With Southern Alkali Corporation, Corpus Christi, Texas).

POSSIBILITIES OF A WIDER PRODUCTION OF NAVAL STORES IN THE SOUTH—Captain I. F. Eldredge, Director of Surveys, Southern Forest Experiment Station, New Orleans, La.

PROGRESS OF THE TUNG OIL INDUSTRY—Dr. C. C. Concannon, Chief, Chemical Division, Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, Washington, D. C.

STARCH AND OTHER PRODUCTS FROM SWEET POTATOES—Dr. H. S. Paine, Chief, Carbohydrate Research Division, Bureau of Chemicals and Soils, Washington, D. C.

INDUSTRIAL UTILIZATION OF SOY BEANS—R. L. Himes, General Manager, Louisiana State Penitentiary, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

THE SOUTH AS A FUTURE SOURCE OF WOOD PULP—Dr. Charles H. Herty, Director, Pulp and Paper Laboratory, Savannah, Ga.

Discussion Leader: Captain A. H. Boyt, President, American Rice Growers Association, Beaumont, Texas.

ADJOURNMENT

NOTE:

All sessions will be held in the Auditorium of Southwestern Louisiana Institute.

Courtesy cars will be available for the use of speakers and guests.

It is desirable that all papers be limited to twenty minutes.

Tickets for the luncheon Thursday and the banquet Friday evening will be on sale at the registration desk.

Reservations at the Gordon or Evangeline Hotel should be sent to Mr. George H. Gardiner, Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, Lafayette, Louisiana.

As will be seen from the above program, the afternoon session on October 16th will be devoted to the sugar industry, and our cane growers and sugar manufacturers as well as business men who are interested in developing the sugar industry and its by-products ought to be present in large numbers. The Farm Chemurgic movement is educational, progressive and intensely practical and the Conference at Lafayette marks its introduction into this section.


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BATON ROUGE, LA.

*CONSULTING BACTERIOLOGIST*

•

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**OF**

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## Duty and Quota Both Evaded

On September 3rd, 1936, the Agricultural Adjustment Administration issued the following official release:

"The quantities of sirups and sugar mixtures which compete with ordinary sugar and which can be imported into the United States during the calendar year 1936 have been limited by quota regulations in accordance with the provisions of the Jones-Costigan Act and Public Resolution No. 109, approved June 19, 1936. Any such products brought in for use as livestock feed or distillation are exempted from quotas.

"The quotas which are established by General Sirup Quota Regulations, Series 1, No. 1, approved hy the Acting Secretary of Agriculture today are as follows:

| Area | Quotas in terms of gallons of 72 per cent total sugar content |
|---|---|
| Cuba | 7,937,453 |
| Dominican Republic | 830,894 |
| Great Britain | 16,368 |
| Other foreign countries | 0 |
| | 8,784,715 |

"All importations since January 1, 1936 are to be counted against the above quotas.

"A study was undertaken several months ago by the Sugar Section on the importations of different grades of edible molasses, sirups, and sugar mixtures imported into

the United States in recent years in order to determine whether the provisions of the Jones-Costigan Act and Public Resolution No. 109, authorizing the establishment of quotas on these products should be made effective. It has been found that limitation on the importations of sirups and sugar mixtures which compete with ordinary sugar was necessary to protect the operations of the sugar quota system established under the Act."

This Ruling did not come a moment too soon and perhaps would not have come until later, if at all, had not very positive objections to the importation of the commodities referred to been registered repeatedly with the U. S. Secretary of Agriculture by the American Sugar Cane League and other interested parties.

As an evidence of the intention to clean up by means of such importations we print below the text of a letter sent out by a New York brokerage firm pointing out the possibilities and seeking agents:

New York, August 23, 1936.

Gentlemen:

We are exclusive U. S. agents for ..... of Havana, Cuba, who are manufacturing and shipping here a syrup made from a good grade of standard refined sugar.

We are looking for an agent for your market. Our principals insist that the agent with whom we tie up for your territory must buy at least one tank car of the material more or less immediately as an evidence of good faith that he can do business.

The story of this syrup situation is about as follows:

There have been rumors that the government would place quotas on syrup.* We believe that quotas may be put on syrup during 1937 but not before. It will be recalled that in some of the proposed sugar legislation, a method of determining syrup quotas was outlined and there is some question as to whether or not the government would undertake placing quotas on syrup even next year until new sugar legislation was passed and this might be quite late in the next session of Congress. The reason we think that quotas will not be put on syrup this year is because the sugar law provided that the basing of any quota must be on the importations of *previous* years. As importation of the syrup this year *largely* exceeds other years, it is mathematically impossible for the government to fix to an annual quota under the authority of sugar act sufficiently large to prevent the immediate shutting off of further imports. We believe that any such arbitrary action would have serious repercussions because many of the trade are relying on this product even if necessary to pay a substantial advance from present values and it is therefore our opinion that no quotas will be placed on syrup until 1937.

We are sending you a sample of the syrup by air mail and attach an analysis from which you will note that a certain amount of the total sugar has been inverted. As you undoubtedly know, this to some extent restricts the use of the product although in certain industries inverted sugar can be used to better advantage than straight sucrose. We can arrange for a larger but not a smaller amount of invert. This product can be used in ice cream, preserving, canning, beverages and beverage syrups, and in the blending of molasses and syrup. It has also been sold to candy manufacturers who make gum drops, jelly beans and marshmallows. With the high price of glucose, it would seem to us that it could be used in many other products where glucose is currently used.

Presumably there are people in your territory who are now equipped with tanks who could use this syrup in tank car lots. You will probably also find that automobile tank equipment is available in your market and that it would be possible to place a car on the siding of the largest buyer and draw off truck lots for some of the smaller buyers. Another means of distribution is in drums. Wholesale sugar distributors could unquestionably sell a large quantity of this syrup to the smaller manufacturers by first packing in drums of 50 gallons each. In certain markets there are storage tanks and barrelling equipment already in existence for glucose, etc. and we would appreciate your advice as to whether such equipment is available in your market. If not, it would still be possible to put this syrup in drums by making a connection to the approximately six inch opening of the tank car so as to cut down the flow to about two and one half inches with a shut off at the end of the line where the material is poured into the barrel. Thus the drums or barrels could be efficiently filled by hand. Clean second hand glucose barrels would probably be the most economical in first cost, but refillable metal drums might be more economical in the long run.

The syrup is shipped directly from Cuba via Seatrain in tank cars of about 10,000 gallons each which on a dry basis is equivalent to about 820 bags of refined sugar. The cars in which the syrup are shipped are rented for periods of six months or more from one of the tank car companies and are lined with a special enamel paint which transports the syrup in excellent condition.

Forty eight hours free time is allowed for discharge and the demurrage thereafter is $2.00 a day for four days and $5.00 a day thereafter. The reason we give you this detail on the demurrage is that a car can be held on demurrage for a reasonable time and thereby avoid the cost of tank equipment. Nevertheless, there is a limit to this delay as our principals have to pay car rentage in addition to the demurrage which would be paid to the railroad.

Our principals are willing to make a sacrifice in price to make it worth while for agents to actively push this business because they are desirous of getting the largest possible volume of business immediately.

Whoever undertakes this business in your market must actively push the sale of these syrups to that class of trade who are now purchasing sugar from refiners as well as arrange with wholesale distributors for its distribution in drums.

Confirmer credits will have to be established in a New York bank for the payment of all syrup. We cannot give you the exact price at this time, but you can rely upon it that it will be substantially below the price of sugar, freight prepaid your market on the basis of the sugar in the syrup. It is up to you whether you open the credit with your own resources or whether you make a little less

*(This has since been done).

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and have one of the users of syrup open the credit for you. You decide the amount that you should make. We quote you a net price. The theory behind this is that our principals want to make the proposition so attractive that it will be actively pushed *at this time.*

Because of the time element and not knowing as to whether or not you would be interested in this proposition, we have written to a few other brokers in your city. We would appreciate a reply by return air mail. We do not expect you to agree to take a car of this syrup promptly without knowing the price, but correspondence is useless unless you are prepared to take a car provided the price is satisfactory. In your reply, please give us a telephone number to which we could place a two number call between the hours of 6:00 and 7:00 P. M. Eastern Standard Time, on Tuesday or Wednesday evenings.

Any arrangement would exclude .....
Company with whom we are negotiating directly.

Yours very truly,

.....

Under the provisions of the Jones-Costigan Act, the definition of sugar includes "edible molasses, sirups and any mixture containing sugar." Section 8a authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to fix quotas on sugar brought into the United States, and under the definition above quoted any importation of invert sirup or edible molasses could and should be charged against the sugar quota of the importing country. In addition, Section 8a(1)(D) authorizes the establishment of separate quotas for "edible molasses, sirups and sugar mixtures" either as a part of or in addition to the quotas established for sugar.

For the reason that such invert sirups and high testing molasses are used in part to fill the consumption requirements of sugar and because such sirups and molasses enter directly into competition with crystallized sugar, particularly for use by the manufacturers of cake, candy and ice cream, the increasing importations of sugar in these forms has been rendering ineffective and inefficient the administration of the Jones-Costigan Act.

It is probable that certain cane refiners and distrib-


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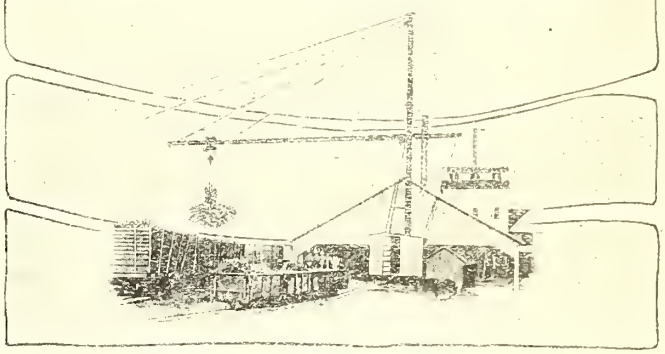

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utors of crystallized sugar have been forced for competitive reasons to become purchasers of invert sirups or high testing molasses, contrary to their own wishes, and marketing practices. This disruption in the marketing of sugar, resulting as it does from the fact that these importations were not charged against the sugar quota made it imperative that this miscarriage of the intent of the law be corrected.

All importations of invert sirups and edible molasses ought to be charged against the sugar quota of the producing area, and the estimate of consumption requirements for the United States ought to include the consumption of such sirups and molasses, and in addition there should be separate quotas for edible molasses, sirups and sugar mixtures limiting the amounts which can be imported in this form, in the same manner as the amounts of refined sugar which can be imported are limited. The League's Washington Manager, Mr. Bourg, protested to Secretary Wallace accordingly.

A careful analysis of the unfair and insidious features of the importation of these so-called syrups has been made by Mr. R. M. Murphy of New Orleans, who is First Vice President of the Cane Products Trade Association. In his analysis Mr. Murphy says:

"In the light of these facts, it is interesting and instructive to calculate the price (dry value) at which melted Cuban granulated sugar can be delivered to the American manufacturer without paying in full the present low duty on dry sugar.

"It requires 8.2 pounds of sugar with added water to produce a sugar syrup of 72 Brix, slightly above the consistency of most table syrups. Such a syrup, whether inverted or not, would show a total sugar content of 65 or 66 per cent which would fix the import duty (as syrup) at slightly over 5 cents per gallon. The freight rate on such syrup from Cuba is 1½ cents per gallon plus a charge for transporting the empty tank car equivalent to 1¼ cents per gallon. We will neglect for the time being the cost of melting the granulated sugar and inverting the resultant syrup and boiling the syrup up to 72 Brix, all of which operations would very slightly, if any, exceed the cost of one cent per gallon of syrup if a volume was being handled.

"The cost of 10,000 gallons of melted Cuban granulated sugar delivered American port duty paid would figure.

| | |
|---|---|
| 82,000 lb. granulated sugar @ 1½c per lb. | $1,230.00 |
| Duty @ 5.15325c per gallon 65% total sugars | 515.33 |
| Freight loaded car 1½c per gal. | 150.00 |
| Freight empty car | 125.00 |
| Total delivered import duty paid | $2,020.33 |

"A cost of $2020.33 for 10,000 gallons of melted sugar syrup containing the sweetening (or dry sugar) value of 82,000 pounds of standard granulated sugar is equivalent to pricing standard granulated sugar to all American users of standard granulated sugar who can use their sugar in melted form at $2.46 per hundred pounds at the seaport. This also means a sugar syrup of acceptable

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density with any desired ratio of sucrose to glucose at less than twenty-one cents per gallon at the seaport which syrup at that price will inevitably displace glucose at present prices. It is impossible for the American Sugar Refining Industry, the American Beet Sugar Industry, or the American Corn Sugar Industry, or the American Cane Sugar Industry to meet this unfair competition. Sugar melted for the purpose of escaping the quota restrictions and/or for the purpose of evading the duty fixed by law on dry sugar should be barred from entering this country, because melted sugar is sold to be used for the identical purposes for which dry sugar is always available in quantity and the use of imported melted sugar displaces an equivalent amount of American dry sugar. Since more than 40 per cent of the sugar consumed by the American public is used by manufacturers, and since most, if not all, manufacturers using sugar can use melted sugar to advantage, over quota, duty evading, foreign melted sugar constitutes a very serious menace to all American beet producers and to all cane producers of Hawaii, Puerto Rico and Louisiana."

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**STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACTS OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AND MARCH 3, 1933.**

Of The Sugar Bulletin, published semi-monthly at New Orleans, La., for October 1, 1936. State of Louisiana, Parish of Orleans.

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and parish aforesaid, personally appeared Andrew W. Dykers, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Business Manager of the Sugar Bulletin and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management, etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, as amended by the Act of March 3, 1933, embodied in section 537, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to-wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are: Publisher, The American Sugar Cane League of the U. S. A., Inc., New Orleans, La.; Editor, Reginald Dykers, New Orleans, La.; Managing Editor, none; Business Manager, Andrew W. Dykers, New Orleans, La.

2. That the owner is The American Sugar Cane League of the U. S. A., Inc., New Orleans, La.; R. L. Baker, Napoleonville, La., President; Edward J. Gay, Plaquemine, La., Vice-President; Frank L. Barker, Lockport, La., Secretary-Treasurer.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are none.

ANDREW W. DYKERS,
Business Manager.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 28th day of September, 1936.

ARTHUR A. DE LA HOUSSAYE,
Notary Public.

(Seal)

(My commission expires at death.)

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THE
# SUGAR BULLETIN

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# The Economic Problems of the Sugarcane Industry

*An Address by C. D. Kemper of Franklin, Louisiana, Chairman of the Legislative Committee of The American Sugar Cane League of the U. S. A.*

*Delivered on October* 16, 1936 *at the SOUTHERN CHEMURGIC CONFERENCE held at Lafayette, Louisiana, October* 15, 16, 17, 1936.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The subject assigned to me has to do with the Economic Problems of the sugar cane industry. This is an all embracing topic. There are many phases that enter into the economic planning necessary to meet the ever changing conditions that obtain in our industry.

We have just listened to a very able address by Dr. Brock.* Before proceeding with my remarks, I wish to endorse what was said by Dr. Brock and I wish to pledge to him and his associates the continued cooperation of the American Sugar Cane League. Dr. Brock very ably outlined the importance of the Domestic sugar industry in its relation to the economic and social system of this nation. He also emphasized the importance of working in harmony with the Farm Chemurgic Council, who seek to encourage "A wider use of farm products in industry through the application of Chemistry and Science."

We have on our program today, several other speakers who will address you on the application of Chemistry and science in the wider use of farm products. All of these addresses, like the address of Dr. Brock, concern the Economic Problems of the Sugar Cane Producers of Louisiana.

The economics of the sugar cane industry of Louisiana can be materially improved by the adoption of more modern implements on the farm and by the installation of more efficient machinery in the factories. We have been slowly improving our yields per acre and our recoveries in the factory. We look forward with much hope to the day when we may be in financial condition to make wider use of farm products which now go to waste. The money for some of these capital investments will be available only when we can induce the Congress of the United States to enact into law such a sugar bill as was introduced in the Senate during the last session by Senator John H. Overton of Louisiana. This fair state has been discriminated against in the Administration of the Jones-Costigan Amendment. The Act provided in clear language that producers of sugar beets and sugar cane were to be guaranteed parity prices based upon the 1909-14 base period. The sugar quotas allotted to Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Philippine Islands, Continental beets and the State of Florida, were in each case more sugar than has been produced by each area during the base period of 1909-14. Each of the areas therefore was given a guarantee of a price that was above the income parity of the base period. Louisiana was the only area and the only State in the Union that did not receive what Congress intended that we should have. Our quota was arbitrarily fixed as 220,800 tons of sugar when our production in 1909-14 period was 325,000 tons. We therefore received 30 odd per cent less than the income parity which was guaranteed in the Act.

Last season our farmers were operating under production adjustment contracts that stipulated the exact number of acres of cane that each grower was entitled to grow. The total number of acres of cane thus fixed by the AAA was 100,000 acres less than the number of acres of cane under cultivation in Louisiana in the base period 1909-14. Many of these contracted acres of cane were of varieties furnished the farmers by the Bureau of Plant Industry of the United States Agricultural Department. We had an almost perfect growing and harvesting season. The result in yields per acre and sugar per ton of cane exceeded any record made in Louisiana since the year 1904, when we had a similar ideal season. We produced 333,000 tons of sugar. Each farmer was

*[Dr. Brock's address will appear in a later edition of the Sugar Bulletin.]

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Reginald Dykers, Editor

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penalized $2.00 per ton of cane for each ton produced above his previously estimated base until his excess reached ten percent; and $3.00 per ton for each ton produced above ten per cent excess. These penalties amounted to one million, five hundred thousand dollars. No other producing area was penalized as none of them produced a sufficient amount of sugar to exceed their already liberal quotas.

"These things to hear," should not Congress come to our rescue so that we may be permitted to operate our farms under the same advantages as are accorded other states of the Union?

Under the Jones-Costigan Amendment, sugar quotas are fixed. The Secretary of Agriculture has the authority to ascertain consumption figures with a view to arranging the total quotas in a sum equal to the total consumption requirements. In October, 1935, the sugar refiners on the eastern sea-board advised the Sugar Section that while there was a surplus of sugar in some sections of the United States, that there was not sufficient raw sugars available to operate the eastern refineries through December. These refiners requested that they be permitted to withdraw in bond over-quota raw sugars that had been placed in warehouses in the eastern ports. At that very moment Louisiana producers were negotiating sales of our sugar to these same eastern refiners. The Sugar Section released the in-bond over-quota sugar to the eastern refiners. We lost the opportunity to sell our surplus sugar and the price of raw sugar declined steadily until it reached the low price of 3.10. The average price of raw sugar for the marketing season of Louisiana last year was only $3.22. Compare this price with the price of sugar in June, 1936, when Cuba and other off-shore areas were marketing their sugars. Refiners are heavy buyers of raw sugar in June each year, as the period of peak consumption is July and August. The market price of sugar in June was 3.85. One refiner paid 3.88 for 12,000 tons Philippine sugar on June 16th.

On July 2nd, the Secretary of Agriculture released some more sugar. Our market has been declining ever since this last release of sugar, and as the Louisiana cane growers again are about to enter the market, we find the price of raw sugar at 3.35.

Cuba is a foreign country. That island produces about 2,700,000 tons of sugar. Cuba has a United States quota of 2,000,000 tons under the Jones-Costigan Amendment. Cuba sells part of the 700,000 tons of excess sugar on the world market at less than one cent per pound and sells the 2,000,000 tons sugar on the American market at a price that will average more than 2½c per pound. Cuba has a net advantage of 1½c per pound in this market on 2,000,000 tons of sugar which, when computed to dollars, amounts to $60,000,000.00. It is urged by the administration that Cuba will spend most of this money in the United States for lard and automobiles. After all, if a portion of this liberal Cuban quota were given to Louisiana, we could put into cultivation 250,000 acres of idle good sugar cane land and we would spend all of the money in the United States. Part of this additional money would be spent in the employment of men who are now on relief. Part would be spent for materials and supplies that are produced in the United States, thereby increasing employment in other sections of our great country. We would then have some money with which to install the necessary specially designed machinery to carry out the suggestions that are going to be made to us today by speakers who will appear under the auspices of the Farm Chemurgic Council.

We are American Farmers. We spend all of our gross receipts in America. We spend a lot of our money for taxes. Our taxes have increased for many reasons. One of the causes of increased taxes is the fact that the duty formerly paid by Cuba on their sugars entering the United States has been reduced by this administration from two cents per pound to nine tenths of a cent. This reduction of duty on 2,000,000 tons of sugar represents a loss in revenues to the Treasury Department of $44,000,000.00 annually.

I was asked to talk on our economic problems. I have endeavored to point out to you the most proximate problem with which we are confronted. When we begin to receive fair treatment from Washington, we can go forward in our industry. We will then make full use of our farm products. We will then be in a position to accept and act upon the aid that is being offered by the Farm Chemurgic Council and the Chemical Foundation, Inc.

# The Use of Bagasse in Animal Feed, for Litter and the Plant Mulches

*A paper read at the Southern Chemurgic Conference, Oct. 16th, 1936,*

*By Mr. Walter Godchaux, Vice President, Godchaux Sugars, Inc., Masonic Temple Building, New Orleans, Louisiana*

I have taken the liberty of changing the title of the paper requested of me somewhat.

I have added "litter" to the other two uses of bagasse, namely, for animal feed and for plant mulches.

My reason for this is that the use of bagasse for poultry litter and animal bedding is a very important one, the demand for which is rapidly increasing, and at the present time it offers the greatest potential tonnage of any of the three usages that I will talk to you about.

In addition, after being used as a poultry litter and animal bedding, it is in excellent condition for use as plant mulch and for soil mixtures.

The word "bagasse" is derived from the Spanish term "bagazo" or "bagaço", meaning an agricultural waste.

In the case of sugarcane, bagasse is the expressed residue in making cane juice for the manufacture of rum or sugar.

## Bagasse for Animal Feed

The principal nutrients of feed for animals consist of proteins, carbohydrates, fats, fibre and certain mineral salts and vitamins.

To obtain the best results, these must be combined in certain proportions, and the combination must be palatable.

Sugarcane bagasse, properly prepared by quick and efficient dehydration and selection of the most nutritious particles offers an important carbonaceous food for animals. In fact, sugarcane comes very near being a pure carbohydrate plant, since all of its sugar, pulp and molasses come under this heading; the sugar is used as a carbonaceous food for humans; the molasses is extensively used for animals.

Why not the bagasse or cane pulp also?

Thus far, cane pulp, although it contains over 55% digestible nutrients, according to the latest edition of Morrison & Henry, has received but very little attention from farmers and feeders.

In the Hawaiian Islands, I know of only one plantation that is using cane pulp extensively in feeding its work stock. This is at Honakaa Sugar Company, which has constantly been using same since 1927, and very successfully. The Manager of this plantation wrote me that he combines 40% cane pulp, 40% blackstrap molasses and 20% protein concentrates as a substitute for the more costly feeds, such as barley, oats, corn, etc., formerly fed.

He was able to effect an almost unbelievable saving of 25c per animal per day, and that the average saving made was close to $50 per head per year.

You must bear in mind that in the Hawaiian Islands, they produce very little grain, and it all must be imported at a high cost. The saving in this country is not as emphatic as this, but it would be very material, especially in years of drouth and grain scarcity.

In Louisiana, our company probably is the only sugar company that has been using systematically for the past six years cane pulp as an important ingredient in the feeding of its live stock, and I admit very successfully in more ways than one. Time will not permit going into detail.

During the drouth year, 1934, our company sold to the various feed mills throughout the country upwards of 7,000 tons of dehydrated sugarcane pulp for feed mixing purposes. This year, 1936, another drouth year, we have an opportunity to sell an equal and possibly a greater amount, should we see fit to offer same to the trade.

Strange as it may seem, some feed mills in the country continued to use bagasse because their customers evidently were satisfied with the feeds containing cane pulp on account of its value as compared to its low cost, even during 1935, which was a non-drouth and comparatively low cost grain year.

I will admit that cane pulp is a roughage and its digestible nutrients are not given the evaluation due it; however, both the human system, as well as the animal, require a certain amount of roughage for their well being.

You, no doubt, are conversant with the history of Graham bread. Sylvester Graham was considered for a long while an imposter when he first tried to convince the public that whole wheat should be used in the manufacture of bread. He was even threatened with arrest for this so-called "adulteration." Now Graham bread is a by-word. Thus he proved the need of fibre or roughage in human nutrition. Is it not correct to assume that it is equally needed in animal nutrition?

You must bear in mind that sugarcane pulp made from bagasse is essentially a carbohydrate ingredient containing a very small percentage of protein and fat. It is a wonderful absorbent for blackstrap molasses, which is also high in carbohydrates and contains no fibre. The above two ingredients should be balanced with a concentrated protein feed-stuff, in order to combine a balanced ration of the proper nutritive ratio for various classes of live stock. Don't, for a moment, think that you can use sour bagasse as a feed-stuff, nor the whole stalk, after mill expression.

The bagasse has to be finely ground, immediately voided of its moisture, and the selective portions chosen containing the most nutritive value for use in animal feed.

## Bagasse For Use as a Litter

Up to a few years ago, the poultry industry used any kind of a poultry litter. Now the commercial hatcheries and discriminating poultrymen recognize the value of good litter.

Until the advent of dehydrated sugarcane litter on the market, imported peat moss had the field of improved poultry litter almost to itself. By a well-conducted comparative experimental trial, lasting over two years, using various litters such as sugar-

cane, peat moss, straw, shavings and peanut shells in several replicated experimental pens containing the same number of birds, sugarcane litter has proven itself the most economic and efficient, when properly processed.

Not only is it being used in New England and other North Atlantic states in increasing volume in preference to peat moss, but it has also found a ready market even in the wheat belt of the middle West, where oat and wheat straw is plentiful, and also in the far South where practically no litter of consequence was formerly purchased.

It has proven itself more attractive, of a better odor, cleaner, as durable, keeping the eggs, poultry and utensils free of dust, and equally as valuable when used for application as a fertilizer in the soil, as compared to peat moss or any other litter. More important yet! Its sale price to the consumer is much lower than peat moss and is an American farm product and not an imported one.

The potential commercial usages of sugarcane litter in the United States have not as yet scratched the surface.

Again, in the manufacture of this commodity due care must be taken in the immediate dehydration of the bagasse and its proper preparation and selection.

### Bagasse For Use in the Plant Mulches

This brings me to the final topic of my paper.

There is no doubt that most of the soils of this country are deficient in humus and too little attention has been paid to the supplying of this deficiency.

Sugarcane in this country is grown in the rich alluvial lands of the Mississippi Delta. It is organic matter. It incorporates in its make up part of the fertility of some of the most fertile lands in the world. Is it not reasonable to state that by applying to the soil the humus of the sugarcane grown on such fertile lands, you are greatly improving not only fertility but also the mechanical condition of the soils of your gardens and your farms where such humus is applied? This fertility reappears again in your plants in sturdier growth and better flowers and farm crops. It has the proper pH for various, at the present time, very popular flowers such as Azaleas, Camillias, Rhododendrons: also, for coniferous evergreens, vegetables and other crops. It should be used in soil mixtures and as a mulch, also to protect plants against heat and cold, and as a moisture conserver. Besides having the proper acidity, it is well supplied with major plant foods such as nitrogen, phosphates and potash.

It may be necessary where quicker results are desired to add some concentrated nitrogen fertilizer in order to speed up the disintegration of the fibrous carbohydrate structure of bagasse. This will result in more rapid transformation of the material into efficient humus and freeing of the fertilizing elements for use by growing plants.

In its manufacture, due care must also be taken to the immediate drying of the bagasse and the selection of the proper particles. The use of bagasse in this field is rather new, but offers great possibilities for the future.

I could go on "ad infinitum" detailing the value of bagasse in the above three usages.

There are many other potential usages for bagasse —a waste farm product. The fact that it is a waste in name, as well as in actuality, and that the already well worth while Farm Chemurgic Council is centering its activities on farm wastes and their usages in industry, makes the topic of this paper a fit one for this Conference.

One of the objects of the Farm Chemurgic Council is to bring, I believe, agriculture and industry together.

I agree fully with Professor C. C. Furnas of Yale University that "agriculture is an industry." If agriculture is ever to attain profitable operations, it must be considered as an industry, conducted on the modern scientific lines of industry. As an industry, it must also make use of all its wastes and by-products, just as all other industries are being compelled to do in order to maintain their places in the sun.

Bagasse is only one of the many farm wastes. It has a tonnage alone in the State of Louisiana of some five to six hundred thousand annually. The farm wastes in this country total about a billion tons a year. Farm wastes exist from coast to coast. Of corn stalks alone there are two hundred million tons; about four times our lumber consumption in good years. We consume twelve million tons of wood per year for paper. Farm waste, which includes bagasse, could easily supply all our cellulose pulp, though the yield is not as great as from wood.

The Farm Chemurgic Council is owed a large debt of gratitude by the American farmer for their wonderful efforts in awakening him to the possibilities for better performance.

I thank you.

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# Quality of Table Sirups from the Newer Sugarcane Varieties

*By C. F. Walton, Jr., and C. A. Fort, Carbohydrate Research Division, Bureau of Chemistry and Soils, U. S. Department of Agriculture.*

At the Houma, La., field station, attention is being given each year to the characteristic properties of the newer varieties of sugarcane for the production of table sirup. The Bureau of Chemistry and Soils has undertaken the sirup making experiments and the Bureau of Plant Industry has cooperated in the work by supplying cane samples from their several test plots located in different parts of the State. This cooperation has been of considerable advantage since a comparison of varieties grown side by side on each of several different soil types rather than on just one is of correspondingly greater value. It is important to know whether consistent varietal differences in sirup making properties characterize canes grown on various soil types, or in otherwise different habitats, or whether the influence of habitat sometimes outweighs the varietal factor.

In the work herewith reported the cane samples were milled by use of the Bureau of Chemistry and Soils mill, the normal juice extraction approximating 65 per cent. The sirup samples were made by use of a standardized method, clarification being by boiling and skimming without the use of chemical clarifying agents. A small, model, open pan evaporator fired by pressure gasoline burners was employed, as this equipment has previously been found to give

Contribution No. 135 from the Carbohydrate Research Division of the Bureau of Chemistry and Soils, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

results comparable with larger scale practices. The semi-sirups were settled at 20° Baume and, at the same time, treated with commercial invertase to prevent subsequent crystallization in the finished product. It has previously been determined that invertase treatment when properly applied does not adversely affect the color, flavor, or turbidity of the sirup.

The yields of table sirup per ton of cane and per acre were not estimated, as these data can be obtained more accurately on a larger scale of sirup production and over a longer period. Moreover, yields will vary with the size of the mill, or extraction obtained, and the condition of the cane. In general, the yield of cane and sirup can be expected to parallel rather closely the yield of cane and sugar as reported by others for the different varieties.

During the 1933 and 1934 seasons table sirup samples were made from canes from 10 different test plots in Louisiana. The following released varieties were studied: Co. 281, Co. 290, P.O.J. 36-M, and the C.P. varieties 807, 28-11, 28-19, 29-116 and 29-320. Several similar tests were made with the C.P. varieties 29-103, 29-117, and 29-291, which are among the unreleased varieties. Although not all of these were grown on every one of the test plots, sufficient data were obtained, it is believed, to permit of discussing their varietal sirup making characteristics. The outstanding canes at least can be accurately chosen as the result of this sort of experimental work, that is, those varieties which tend to make the best or the poorest quality sirup. This consideration obviously is of practical commercial importance and should supplement investigations of the yields and disease resisting characteristics of sugarcane.

In judging sirup quality commercially, flavor and color are usually considered the most important properties, although density, degree of turbidity, or volume of sirup sediment, and the occurrence of either sugaring or fermentation are also important factors. However, only the flavor, color, and turbidity or sirup sediment were compared in this investigation, the other factors being carefully controlled during sirup making.

*Flavor.* The flavor of the sirup was in general fairly satisfactory from most of the varieties and from all except one of the test plots. As individual tastes vary so greatly, however, it is inadvisable to attempt to rank the samples definitely according to flavor. As a rule those samples with the lowest ash and acidity content appeared to have the mildest flavor. The varieties P.O.J. 36-M and C.P. 28-19, for example, which are relatively low in ash and acidity, were judged to make sirup of the best flavor, while at the opposite extreme is C.P. 28-11, a cane tending to give a product relatively high in ash and acidity. The so-called "saltiness" and "bite" or "whang" of sirup are probably due largely to organic and inorganic salts and to acidity. Among the other released varieties, C.P. 29-116, C.P. 29-320 and C.P. 807, Co. 281 and Co. 290, arranged in order of preference, were judged to be intermediate in flavor—not as mild as P.O.J. 36-M and not as strong as C.P. 28-11. These comments on flavor, it is understood, are the conclusions from tests to compare characteristic varietal properties by the commonly used boiling and skimming method, without the use of chemical clarifying agents or decoloring carbon. The samples of cane were reasonably free from damage by borers, red rot, etc., presence of which causes sirup of considerably inferior quality. Such a variety as P.O.J. 213, for example, when heavily infected with red rot produces sirup of much poorer flavor and color than results from sound cane.

The use of chemical clarifying agents, such as sulphur dioxide and lime, or of decolorizing carbon, of course, tends to "level out" differences in characteristic flavors as well as in color. Methods employing sulphur dioxide and lime, phosphoric acid and lime, chalk or calcium carbonate, tannins, kieselguhr, and various commercial decolorizing carbons were studied in previous years and were not used in the standardized procedure of the present investigations.

*Color.* On the basis of color, P.O.J. 36-M tended to yield slightly better quality sirup than the other varieties when grown on the same test plot. Next in order are rated C.P. 28-19, C.P. 29-116, C.P. 29-320 and C.P. 28-11, with Co. 281 and Co. 290 following, and C.P. 807 on an average making the darkest sirup. The unreleased varieties C.P. 29-103, C.P. 29-117, and C.P. 29-291 did not look so promising.

In a separate series of experiments it was found that it required 1-1/2 to 2 per cent of activated vegetable decolorizing carbon, based on Brix solids in the juice, to produce sirup from C.P. 807 as light in color as that made without carbon treatment from some of the better varieties. Use of the sulphitation process in other supplementary experiments verified the well-known fact that this process also when properly applied gives sirups of fairly uniform color from different kinds of cane.

*Sirup Sediment.* The varieties P.O.J. 36-M, C.P. 807, C.P. 28-19, C.P. 29-116 and C.P. 29-320 tended to give sirups having the least volume of sirup sediment. The Co. varieties 281 and 290, as also C.P. 28-11, gave more turbid sirups, as a rule, or, when well settled, a somewhat greater volume of sediment.

*Location or Soil Type.* The color, flavor and turbidity of the samples varied considerably depending upon the test plot on which the canes were grown. In some cases the order of difference attributed to varietal characteristics was reversed when the varieties from different locations were cross-compared. For example, P.O.J. 36-M sirup from some test plots was of better quality than sirup from C.P. 28-19 cane grown on other plots; whereas C.P. 28-19 sirup from certain other plots was better than sirup from P.O.J. 36-M cane grown elsewhere. Small varietal differences were thus overshadowed in certain instances by the soil type influence, although when grown side by side on any one test plot the varieties tended to show the same order of differences in their sirup making characteristics. A cane like C.P. 807, however, consistently made sirup of darker color, regardless of where grown, showing that rather large varietal differences can predominate over the soil type influence. The tendency of canes like Co. 290 and C.P. 28-11 to make sirup containing a relatively larger volume of sediment was also noted to be consistent, although in general the type of soil also has considerable influence on sediment. Owing probably to the relatively high non-sugar content observed, sirup of poor color and flavor resulted from all of several varieties grown at one particular location (muck soil), which confirms a point well known to

experienced sirup makers, namely, that there are some soils which should not be selected for the cultivation of sugarcane for sirup. Measurable differences in flavor as well as in color and turbidity were concluded to be caused by the soil type or fertilizer influence when the sirups from any one variety grown on different test plots were compared.

Similar comparisons were made in 1934 and 1935 with seven varieties of sugarcane grown at one location in the East Texas area. These varieties were the Louisiana Purple, locally known as Native cane, the P.O.J.'s 36-M, 213, and 234, Co. 281 and 290, and C.P. 807. The soil was a rather light sandy loam, typical of that on which cane is grown in East Texas. All of the sirup samples were of good color and flavor and contained but little sediment. The sirup from P.O.J. 36-M was a shade the best in color, while C.P. 807 and Co. 290 gave the darkest sirups. The largest yield was calculated for Co. 290, with C.P. 807 next largest, and Louisiana Purple lowest.

Summarizing this investigation, it may help to give a more definite idea of the maximum degree of variation in sirup quality to state that color and turbidity, when measured by the Keuffel and Esser color analyzer, showed the following maximum differences: (1) Attributable to varietal characteristics, the color of the sirup was approximately twice as dark for the poorest variety as for the best one when both were from the same test plot; (2) the influence of soil type on any one variety was to give sirups with twice as much color in the case of one test plot as for another; (3) turbidity as affected by the varietal factor was one and one-half times as great for the poorest as compared with the best variety, this being the maximum difference between samples from the same test plot; and (4) attributable to the soil type factor, the turbidity was three times as great for some sirups as for others from the same variety of cane grown on different test plots.

## Washington News

*(By C. J. Bourg)*

Harvest season having arrived, the chief immediate concern of all sugarcane growers is "What will be the net return for sugarcane on the 1936 crop?"

The present and prospective price of sugar being quite low, the grower can get little encouragement from the sugar market but must look to Washington if he is to receive a net return for his 1936 crop comparable to that which he received for his 1935 crop.

There are two distinct ways in which the prospects for the grower could be improved by the Secretary of Agriculture. One would be for the Secretary to remove the depressing over-supply of quota sugars, and the other would be to make available benefit payments similar to those made under the AAA contract. Both of these recommendations have been made to the Secretary repeatedly but neither have been put into practice. Nevertheless, we must insist that even at this late date the power and authority rests with the Secretary of Agriculture to do either or both. The market price of sugar could be improved considerably by an early announcement of the 1937 quotas based upon a very conservative estimate of consumption requirements, accompanied by a definite statement that no revisions in quotas will be made except to correct an apparent emergency. We submit that such a statement would be thoroughly justified as a corrective measure, in view of the generally recognized over-estimate of consumption for 1936, as represented by the total quota figures of 6,812,687 tons.

The Secretary has the power and authority under Section 32 of the AAAct to make benefit payments to growers to "increase the domestic consumption of agricultural commodities and products thereof." Up to the present time the Secretary has been unwilling to avail himself of these powers by which the net returns of sugarcane growers for the 1936 crop might be improved to the extent that the purchasing power would be maintained at or near the level of the past two years under Federal control.

The developments for the current year and the facts force us to reiterate our contention that the revisions and reallocations of the quotas in 1936, with due consideration given to the time when each was made, have directly caused the price of sugar to be depressed and to decline at the very beginning of the harvesting season. The revision of April 10th was made at a time when the price of sugar was improving, which is also true of the announcement of June 19th, which anticipated the formal revision made on July 2nd. The reallocation of the expected deficit in the Philippine quota, as early in the year as July 27th, seemed to most people in the domestic sugar industry to be unnecessary. It must be remembered that just at this time the shortage of the fruit crops for canning was becoming known. The market did not react violently until the exact figures became available, indicating to everyone in sugar circles that the consumption requirements for 1936 would be less than they had been in 1935.

We still contend that the law requires the Secretary of Agriculture to base his estimate of consumption requirements in sugar for the United States on "available statistics of the Department of Agriculture." Since we are interested parties we should have the legal right to have those statistics made available to us, so that we may determine whether the Secretary exceeded his power, and whether he should not have made a revision in September when the available statistics demonstrated the incorrectness of the previous estimate.

There are two points that have been brought to the attention of the officials of the AAA for their consideration in connection with the present price of sugar and the prospective net returns on the 1936 Louisiana sugar crop. First is that in the Fall of 1935 the low price of sugar was only relatively important to the grower, because under the law and the AAA contract, the Secretary was authorized and had agreed to make up the difference between the market price and the base period parity price. In this way the grower was guaranteed the maintenance of his purchasing power. In 1936, however, the grower is no longer guaranteed base period parity but the Secretary of Agriculture is no less charged with the duty of maintaining the purchasing power of the grower than he was last year. It appears to us that under these circumstances the Secretary of Agriculture should as a matter of good public policy be willing to remove any depressing influences on the price of sugar that may have arisen as a result of his official acts. Of course, we do not contend that the market price of sugar would be permitted to advance without

hindrance to exorbitant heights, but we submit that if the price of sugar to the consumer at this time would be permitted to be the same as it was last year at this time, there would be sufficient returns from the sale of sugar to provide a price per ton of sugarcane approaching reasonably the base period parity. In other words, the appeal to the Secretary of Agriculture is not to ask that he increase the price of sugar, but rather that he remove the causes which have prevented an anticipated advancement.

Admitting, for the sake of this discussion that the Secretary prefers other means of restoring the purchasing power of the grower, such as the Harrison-for-Costigan Bill and the ½c per pound processing tax which he recommended to Congress earlier this year, we suggest that until Congress does provide a more or less permanent Federal policy with regard to the domestic producer of sugarcane and sugar beets, the Secretary should avail himself of the powers and authority which he has under existing law, even though it be only on a temporary basis to meet the emergency.

The other point is the fact that Louisiana sells its sugar during a period from October to March, hence the average price of sugar for the year means nothing to Louisiana or to a great many small beet processing companies and the growers, if the highest price of sugar comes between March and October as it has done this year, and the low price of sugar comes at the very time that our sugar is being sold and during the period when the average price is computed in making final settlements under the Grower-Processor Purchasing Contract. It may be just an unfortunate circumstances that our selling season is the low price season, but it is none the less a fact from our viewpoint that the existing law and the quota system make it possible for the Secretary to protect our growers in some measure from the inopportune seasonal decline, and certainly the growers ought to have a right to hope and to suggest that no official action on the part of the Secretary of Agriculture should be even a contributing cause to a decline in price at this wrong time of the year.

We are irrevocably committed to the practical merit of and necessity for a sugar quota system. But the excellence thereof is measured by the results obtained through its administration. It is readily evident that by administrative procedure the quotas can be made to nullify the laws of supply and demand completely. A strict quota control means better prices. A loose quota control creates uncertainty and means depressed prices. An efficient administration of the sugar quota system will make it possible for the growers to receive a reasonable parity price direct from the processor. When the administration of the quota system is indefinite and uncertain, then the grower is unable to secure a sufficient market price and must turn to the Federal Government for protection.

In the last analysis the sugarcane grower wants to look forward to a Federal policy which will permit him to secure a profitable price for all of the sugarcane he produces, not for just a part of his production, and an assured market for all the sugarcane he produces, which is only possible when processors are permitted to have a profitable operation. The achievement of these two objectives under the sugar quota system means stabilization for the domestic sugar industry.


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THE
# SUGAR BULLETIN

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## The Washington Viewpoint

*(By C. J. Bourg)*

This is the season for the formulation of legislative programs. The great national organizations of farmers, like the American Farm Bureau Federation and the National Grange, are holding their annual meetings to discuss the future from the standpoint of legislation. Last week the Secretary of Agriculture talked to the leaders of farm organizations at a meeting called by him for the purpose of discussing the crop insurance plan. However, it soon became apparent that most of these leaders were anxious to discuss farm relief on a broad general plane. Only the farmers from the drought areas of the Middle West seemed to consider the crop insurance proposal as of major importance. As a result the meeting called for the one purpose, developed into a rally for Federal farm relief with the loudest expressions by the more outspoken leaders being directed to the subject of the restoration or reenactment of the Agricultural Adjustment Act.

In connection with the crop insurance plan, as is usual with most plans that are National in scope, it is based upon the solution of the problems of surplus crops. The original AAAct had a similar basis. Nevertheless, the application of the proposal might be properly and profitably extended for the purpose of increasing the marketing period for Louisiana raw sugar. If we are to continue to face uncertain markets in the Fall of each year, it would do no harm to study the possibility of a program by which Louisiana raw sugar would not have to be dumped on the market when the price of sugar is at a low level,—whether it be the result of seasonal influences or the workings of the sugar quota system,—but by which such sugars could be ware-housed and held until the re-establishment of the price structure, which normally happens in the Spring months of each year.

The demands for the restoration of the principles and benefits of the AAAct made by the farm leaders at the meeting in Washington, did not include any definite recommendations as to how this might be accomplished. One of the more enthusiastic spokesmen suggested rather directly that the old Act might be reinstated by Congress in response to the public demand of farmers, in the rather vague hope that if the matter is again presented to the United States Supreme Court, it might be considered as an expression of popular will and decided upon more liberal grounds than previously. We cannot agree with the reasoning or hopes which underlie such a recommendation, except that the Court would have suffered several changes of personnel in the meanwhile.

As we see it, the principles and benefits of the AAA cannot be restored by the mere re-enactment of the AAAct, even if Congress were inclined to engage in this defiance of the Supreme Court. There are only two ways open for those who desire the production control and the benefit payments, one is the adoption of a Federal program which might be made legally acceptable through the intervention of State officials in matters of control, and by separating therefrom entirely the taxing or revenue producing features; the second is the alternative of an amendment to the United States Constitution.

In view of the fact that the Jones-Costigan Act and Public Resolution 109 have maintained the sugar quota system independently of the main provisions of the AAAct as originally enacted, one might question the direct interest of the sugarcane grower in these developments. But we need only to remind the reader that the future of the sugar quota system will have to be determined in the next Congress because the Jones-Costigan Act expires at the end of 1937. Therefore, the same Congress which is expected to work out legislatively the farm relief programs of the Federal Government, will also have before it measures concerning sugar. The Congressional leaders having agreed upon general policies of government, they will seek to apply them consistently in all cases. Naturally, our purpose will be to direct their attention to the special problems involving our industry, pointing out that they are so different from the problems of farmers who grow surplus crops that the approach

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Reginald Dykers, Editor

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and the treatment and the solution necessary must be different.

We must insist that the relationship of the Federal Government to the domestic sugar industry, can best be determined by considering the experiences and demonstrations of the past three years. We declare once again that the quota system has proved itself to be the most effective foundation for the Federal policy towards sugar. The benefits which have come to the domestic sugar industry from the quota system have gone much farther towards maintaining the industry permanently, than the benefit payment checks under the AAA which have been materially and immediately beneficial, and therefore more readily recognizable in their helpful results for the individual.

Under the quota system the domestic sugar industry is being stabilized to the extent that a reasonable equalizing of the supply and demand requirements is accomplished. But when this is done, we will still have before us for consideration the often repeated proposition, whether the legislative objective of Congress should not be to provide such administrative procedure in the law as will permit the grower and the processor to engage in free enterprise, the profits of which will come to both from the market price received for the sugar and for the sugarcane produced.

We have given full weight to the obligations of the Federal Government to the consumers of sugar—which is the entire Nation,—and to the producers of sugar in other areas—which includes American citizens in several categories and foreigners. We can state with absolute candor that all of these obligations could be justly met under the quota system, through an administrative procedure which is liberal but firm, and which is definite but not inflexible. That the price of sugar should not be permitted to ride on a runaway market, is more important to the domestic sugar industry than it is to the consumer, for reasons which are obvious. Foresight admonishes us against prices which are too high and out of line, just as hindsight reminds us of the depression we suffer when prices are too low and out of line. But any study of the present situation will demonstrate that the consumer of sugar in the United States is very well protected; whether the comparison is made of the price of other food products, or of the food value of other commodities, or of the price paid for sugar by the consumer in other countries of the world.

The recently improved market price of sugar, if it is allowed to continue and we sincerely hope it will be, may furnish Congress with the ready yardstick for measuring the merit and reasonableness of our position.

## Plantation Labor

The American Sugar Cane League has been in close touch during the past two weeks with Mr. J. H. Crutcher, Administrator, Works Progress Administration of Louisiana, and Messrs. P. J. Charlet, Director, Louisiana State Employment Service, and E. E. Webre, Assistant Director, Louisiana State Employment Service, on the subject of the shortage of plantation labor, concerning which many complaints have been received since the commencement of grinding. The League has canvassed the situation thoroughly and has supplied the above-mentioned officials with specific figures concerning the additional labor needed in every section of the sugar district. The League's survey showed an immediate need of 3406 laborers and information was given Messrs. Crutcher, Charlet and Webre of just how many were needed at many different points.

The attitude of the W. P. A., represented by Mr. Crutcher, and the Louisiana State Employment Service, represented by Messrs. Charlet and Webre, is substantially this: they will not take on, nor keep on, as workmen on non-emergency projects, any colored laborers who have a background of farm experience. They declare, however, that no very large number of persons coming in this category are on their lists and they believe that the shortage of labor that exists cannot be traced to their operations to any large extent.

Mr. Crutcher, Mr. Charlet and Mr. Webre all seem to comprehend the necessity of relieving the shortage of sugar plantation labor, and the vital importance of having sufficient cane cutters to take care of windrowing and emergency work in the event of the wrong sort of weather has been explained to them and impressed on them. We believe they will do what-

ever they can. That they can do very much, however, is doubtful, in view of their own contention that the shortage owes its existence chiefly to causes not connected with their agencies.

## Important Honor Conferred on Mr. Munson

That most excellent and effective organization, The Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation, which is a branch or unit of the great American Farm Bureau Federation, held its Annual Meeting in Baton Rouge on November 9th and 10th. The American Sugar Cane League was represented at the meeting by a member of its Executive Committee, Mr. Stephen C. Munson, General Manager of the Albania Plantation near Jeanerette, and in the Annual Election of officers Mr. Munson was chosen First Vice President, to serve during the ensuing year.

The selection of Mr. Munson for this very important office is a splendid thing for both the Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation and the sugar industry of Louisiana because it closely ties the highly important business of sugarcane growing in with the other agricultural industries of Louisiana and gives to the Farm Bureau Federation an officer of high ability who has proved his worth and intelligence and good judgment in the councils of the American Sugar Cane League, of which he was President for two years. Mr. Chalkley of Lake Charles was elected President.

The meeting was most interesting and instructive and laid the foundation for a most important development in the affairs of Agriculture in this State.

The Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation heretofore has comprised two functions:

1—The organization of farmers for the protection of their business and educational purposes.

2—The buying and selling of commodities farmers use.

At this meeting a plan was adopted whereby the commercial interests of the Farm Bureau are divorced from its educational activities and two separate and distinct organizations are now in existence. These are: The Louisiana Cooperatives Inc., with Parish units in ten parishes to take care of all buying and selling; and the Louisiana Farm Bureau with a Secretary-Manager appointed and paid by the State University and the Federal Government and placed directly under Dr. Bateman, Director of Extension. This Secretary-Manager will attend all (as far as possible) meetings of farmers and will work with the County Agents and the plan bids fair to establish a strong and closely knit organization. It is imperative for us in the sugar business to join in the upbuilding of an organization which will without doubt speak with authority and wield wide influence.

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## New Definition of Molasses

The Food Standards Committee of the Food and Drug Administration, at Washington, at its meeting September 28 to October 2, 1936, proposed a new definition for molasses and the committee invites criticisms and suggestions on the proposed new definition.

The Food Standards Committee is appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture. Three of its nine members are state men representing the Association of Official Agricultural Chemists, three are state men representing the Association of Dairy, Food and Drug Officials, and three represent the Department of Agriculture.

The proposed definition of molasses is:

"The product which remains after separating sugar from the clarified and concentrated juice of the sugarcane. It may be 'light' or 'dark'. It contains not more than 25 percent of moisture and not less than 55 percent of total sugars (sucrose plus reducing sugars). Reducing sugars are calculated as invert sugar.

"Light molasses is molasses which contains not less than 62 percent of total sugars.

"Dark molasses is molasses which contains not less than 55 percent of total sugars".

The present definition of molasses is as follows:

"Molasses is the product left after separating sugar from massecuite, melada, mush sugar, or concrete, and contains not more than 25 percent of water and not more than 5 percent of ash."

The *Sugar Bulletin* reaches a large number of people who are familiar with molasses in both a practical and a technical and scientific way. The Molasses Committee of the American Sugar Cane League will appreciate expressions from everybody as to whether the proposed new definition will be harmful to our Louisiana producers of molasses, and if so, why. Expert comment is especially desired.

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# Manufacture of Alcohol From Sugarcane By Products

*Address by Dr. W. L. Owen of Baton Rouge, La., Presented at the Meeting of The Southern Chemurgic Conference, Lafayette, Louisiana, October 15, 16, 17, 1936.*

It is highly fitting that this epoch making Chemurgic Conference should be held here in the heart of the sugar belt of Louisiana, and I felicitate the Chemurgic Council, and the local sponsors of this meeting, for their foresight and their vision in arranging for it. In Farm Chemurgy we have for the first time a clear picture, and an adequate concept of union and harmony between the manufacturing industries and agriculture. Chemurgy conceives of the utilization of solar energy, as a source of power for the production of carbohydrates and protein, which in turn are to be utilized as a source of energy for men and horse power, and to a greater extent than ever before for the motor power of farm and transport.

It is but natural therefore that in this picture of the conversion of solar energy, into fuel B. T. U's, or any of the various chemical substances, serving the needs of man, Farm Chemurgy should find a loyal following and its most devoted and enthusiastic disciples here in Southwest Louisiana, with its almost twelve months of growing season, with its wealth of soil fertility, and with one of its major crops, the sugarcane the most efficient converter of solar energy into carbohydrates available for zymogenic processes, of any crop known to man.

The cane sugar industry in Louisiana may be said to have had its birth in the classical Chemurgical tests of the illustrious Etienne de Bore, who in 1795 granulated or crystallized sugar from the juice of Louisiana grown sugarcane, by evaporation, and laid the foundation for our modern sugar industry, and transformed the function of cane in this State as a source of potable spirits, into that of its present source of a considerable part of our domestic sugar requirements and a very large part of our edible sirup and molasses supply. Happy and thrice blessed will we be here today, if following in the illustrious steps of the pioneer, de Bore, we reverse the process, and lay the foundation for a motor fuel alcohol industry, by the utilization of the wastes from our cane fields and factories.

It might have occurred to us long before that the agricultural industry had long since outgrown its function as merely a source of man's food and clothing, and the building materials for his homes and shops, the source of his beasts of burden, and material for footwear. But most of all will it be surprising to the generations that follow us, that we so long seemed impervious and unreceptive to the idea that we could continue to prosper in the business of assisting Nature to build up from solar energy the cellulosic and carbohydrate material of our crops while deliberately discarding, burning, or ruthlessly destroying such large percentages of these crops, saving only the food material or the fibre for our use. In our cotton crop, we reject fully 65% of the yield of plant material from our fields. In corn 59%, in wheat and small grains 70%, while in sugar we were until comparatively recently only salvaging approximately 50%.

To these wastes of our field, must be charged their pro rata, expenditures of labor required for their production, the fertilizer required for their support, the elements of sunshine and moisture that have gone into their synthesis. In the sugarcane plant, we have not only the presence of fermentable sugars, associated with the necessary elements of nutrition, such as albuminous material, as well as the inorganic salts necessary to support the growth of fermentation agents, but the extraction of this material requires the simplest processes conceivable.

To my audience here today, there is nothing new in the discussion of the possibilities of producing alcohol from the products of our cane factories or our fields. Not only have you throughout your lifetime been familiar with these possibilities, but you have witnessed in all of the neighboring Latin American countries the co-existence of sugar factories and distilleries, the latter using the by-products from the factories, or even the raw material ordinarily consumed by the factory, when the price of alcohol occasionally warranted the use of this raw material.

You have heard also for at least 20 years, the possibility of using blends of alcohol and gasoline as motor fuel, and have observed, and read of the fulfillment of this plan in every country of Europe and by practically all of those of Latin America. You will be astounded at the statement, that after more than three decades of industrial alcohol production in this country that we still don't know the cost balance of the process. What you will ask, have we done with all the cost sheets of the large alcohol producing companies that have been operating in this country, and who have been marketing alcohol from molasses, grain, and other raw materials, at prices ranging from 20 cents to nearly one dollar per gallon. It is true that we have cost figures and statistics including labor, raw materials, selling costs, advertising and all of the elements that go into the manufacturing costs, but these, include such items as depreciation of obsolete plants, the use of antiquated equipment, the write off of abandoned plants, the cost of low efficiencies in yields, the failure to recover fermentation gases, the neglect of the utilization of waste products, the cost of transportation and storage of raw materials.

In the light of our present knowledge of the scientific principles involved in the zymogenic processes of alcohol fermentation we are convinced that we can produce alcohol from molasses, corn, Irish and sweet potatoes, or from artichokes, at a cost of from 10 to 12 cents for raw material, and an overall cost of 25 cents per gallon of alcohol motor fuel grade.

It is our belief that without subsidies, special legislation or compulsion, but entirely on the merit of the two fuels, we can establish an "Agricrude Alcohol" motor fuel industry that will enormously enrich the farmer, without any imposition whatever on the motorist. It is my purpose here today to endeavor to point out the application of Chemurgic principles to our sugar industry, and to show how the products of our fields and factories, can contribute to the raw materials suitable for the production of "Agricrude alcohol."

Since the very beginning of our domestic sugar industry we have supplied molasses for the manufacture of alcohol. One third of our cane crop has been left in the field to be burned, or buried, depending upon whether we wished to destroy the cane borers or preserve the parasites that prey upon them. At times we have planted tops instead of bottoms and

saved a corresponding amount of bottoms for our mills. We have viewed these enormous tonnages of cane tops and refuse in our fields, or watched the funeral pyres of smoking, smouldering carbohydrates wafted heavenward as a token of our sacrifice to the gods of the harvest, and only now Farm Chemurgy enters the picture and suggests the use of Chemical Accounting to strike a balance on our losses.

### Farm Chemurgy Looks in on the Louisiana Sugar Industry

Farm Chemurgy looks in and surveys these domestic supplies of sources of chemicals, on the one hand, and on the other inventories the outlets for the products made therefrom. It happily concentrates attention first on those products, for which obtains an almost inexhaustible demand. Farm Chemurgy does not envisage the production of rare and expensive chemicals, as an outlet for the conversion of millions of tons of farm products. It concentrates on a goal of 1,600,000,000 gallons of alcohol, for example, utilizing the corn production from 25,000,000 acres, or 5,000,000 acres of cane. It looks out over our cane harvest and formulates the following inventory of what it has to offer in the way of by products utilizable for "Agri-Crude Alcohol".

Black Strap Molasses—18,000,000 Gals.
Alcohol— 7,000,000 Gals.
Sugar Cane Tops — 700,000 Tons
Alcohol— 4,900,000 Gals.
Sugar Cane Bagasse — 400,000 Tons
Alcohol— 2,900,000 Gals.

Here we have approximately 14,800,000 gallons of alcohol from by products alone, and to this should be added the potential yield from a ten percent increase in our sugar acreage, devoted to prolific varieties grown primarily as a source of motor fuel. This would give us 24,000 Acres, 14,400,000 Tons, 144,000,000 Gals.

Let us see how the utilization of these by products, other than the molasses, for alcohol production will affect our soil fertility reserves, or will involve new fertilization practices. Our cane tops are now burned for the most part, and in so doing we lose approximately 57 lbs. of Nitrogen for 30 tons of cane. In salvaging the millable portions of these tops, we leave on our soils the leaves, which have a narrower C. N. ratio than the stalky portion, which is almost indestructible if incorporated in the soil. We may actually improve the conditions of our soil by cleaning and harvesting the tops for alcohol, as well as obtain an estimated return of approximately 50 gallons of alcohol per acre. In addition there will be an extra ton and half of bagasse from the tops to credit to our account. But the cleaning of our fields and the utilization of the stalky portion of the trash, will permit of the separation and segregation of the leaves.

Estimating the production of Filter Press Cake at 25 pounds per ton of cane milled, we have 25,000 tons of cake, with a Nitrogen content of approximately 0.4% or 100 tons of Nitrogen. With an average C.-N. ratio of 40:-1 of cane trash, an addition of 1.5-2.0 parts of nitrogen is required to decompose 100 parts of this trash, or 30-40 parts per ton. Our filter press mud, if composted with the leaves of our trash should effectively decompose 250 to 350 Tons of trash, and yield a product which will not depress the nitrates in our soil, and furnish this amount of fertilizing material for future use.

But we have, or shall have additional sources of Nitrogen for composting the leafy portions of our Cane Trash, for in our contemplated production of approximately 160,000,000 gallons of "agricrude alcohol" we will have produced approximately 1400 tons of Nitrogen in the Distillery Slop, or lees, and the yeast settlings on the bottom of the fermenters. This gives us approximately 1500 tons of Nitrogen or sufficient to compose 55,000 to 75,000 tons of cane leaves.

From the figures given in the classical work of W. C. Stubbs on the fertilization of Sugarcane, one ton of tops and leaves removes 5.7 pounds of Nitrogen, so from a 30 ton crop of cane (millable Cane) we will have 57 lbs. of Nitrogen loss. To compensate for this loss we would require the residue from 2800 gallons of molasses. Or if we return the leaves to the soil as compost and assuming the ratio of the trash being composed of 75 and 25% of millable tops and leaves respectively, 2000 gallons of distillery waste would correct the nitrogen loss from one acre of cane.

Our 400,000 tons of bagasse contains from 2-3% sugars, which is not only of no service in the manufacture of fibre board, but is highly objectionable in that it makes this material more susceptible to the growth of fungi, and to the deterioration in fibre, which they induce. Owen and Denson in studying the possibilities of ethyl alcohol recovery from bagasse by fermenting in the presence of molasses mashes, obtained yields as high as 13 gallons per ton.

### The Necessity of Low Topping at Early Stages of Harvest

But we of the Domestic Sugarcane Industry, have an even more definite, and local conception of the value of Farm Chemurgy as applied to the wastes of carbohydrates in our harvested acres of cane. Under the conditions of our subtropical environment, and by virtue of our short growing season, and the hazard of freezes toward the end of harvest, we find ourselves compelled to begin our harvesting operations when the upper portions of the cane are too immature to use for sugar extraction. In view of the fact that delayed ripening of our cane tends to prolong the ordinary grinding season, besides making efficient factory operations more difficult, the profitable utilization of these discarded portions of the crop, would undoubtedly lead to an even more drastic topping system in the early stages of harvest and to a more satisfactory factory operation as a result of handling juices of higher purity. We can hardly present this view of the subject as succinctly as the author of Circular No. 368 of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Mr. George Arceneaux, from which we quote as follows:

### Studies of Effect of Topping

"It is well known that the analysis of the juice from mill cane grown under Louisiana conditions can be regulated within certain limits by discarding varying proportions of comparatively immature tops when the cane is harvested. The extent to which it is economically desirable to increase the sugar content of mill cane by discarding increasing proportions of the tops differ under different conditions, among which are the market value of sugar and molasses, the cost of transporting the cane, and the conditions under which it may be purchased from the grower. In the case of factory owners producing cane on areas adjacent to factories, the main consideration is whether or not the value of the sugar and molasses lost per acre as a result of discarding immature top

portions of the stalk is greater than the resulting saving in transportation and manufacturing costs. An additional consideration, which depends largely on factory capacity and total tonnage of cane available, involves the question of the extent to which it may be advantageous to reduce the tonnage of mill cane by discarding the more immature portion in the interest of expediting grinding of the crop within the limited grinding period. Under the sliding-scale contracts usually employed in Louisiana for the purchase of cane, in which the purchase price decreases rapidly as the percentage of sucrose decreases below the basic percentage established in the contract as the standard, proper topping is of even greater importance to the grower who sells cane because it is frequently possible, by discarding certain portions of the upper part of the stalk of below-standard cane, to so enhance the value of delivered mill cane as to result in a very definite gain in returns for his crop."

It is evident therefore that the application of Chemurgic principles in the residues of our cane fields, in converting the carbohydrates of our cane tops into "Agricrude Alcohol", is not only suitable, but it seems more perfectly designed for this purpose, than for any other industry that now exists. It will lead to better operations of our sugar factories, to a better balance of the purity of our juices from year to year, to a better maintenance of the C.-N. ratio of our soils, and to, most important of all, an increase in the revenues from our fields.

In addition to the interest that we have in the light of the foregoing, in the manufacture of alcohol for motor fuel our domestic sugar cane industry needs a cheap source of alcohol for its own use. With supplies of this material available at low prices, and from its own plants, then such processes as the Olivarius process, in which the reducing sugars of molasses are first eliminated by fermentation, with non inverting yeast, and subsequently clarified with alcohol and the sucrose recovered by evaporation, become more easy of realization, since one of the weaknesses in the process at present is the cost of the alcohol and its losses during operations.

### After Alcohol What?

There may be some in the audience here today who will have looked beyond the horizon of the realization of the Chemurgic program in the development of a 1,600,000,000 gallon Agricrude Alcohol industry for motor fuel, and they will be asking "will that be all?" I may assure them that it is but the beginning, and remind them that Chemurgy is seeking first the kingdom of the practical and easily attainable, and leaving the other steps to the future. Chemurgy seeks first the outlet for these enormous tonnages of chemicals which our crop surplusages and wastes can be made to produce. It seeks first to establish alcohol, for motor fuel, rather than gluconic acid from corn or molasses. For the sugar industry ethanol is just a beginning for just as easily as we can convert the carbohydrates of our molasses, and the juices from the cane tops, into ethyl alcohol, we can convert them into a variety of chemicals by biochemical processes. Acetone and Butanol, of which our industries are now consuming 49,000,000 pounds annually, can be, and is being made from molasses under the Arroyo patents, with a yield of 34% of the sugars present or, approximately 2.4 pounds per gallon of molasses, or about 20 cents from one gallon of raw material. Butyric Acid can be produced from molasses or cane juice at yields as high as 43% on the weight of the sugars, and at a cost of approximately 7 cents per pound, and has a market value of 22 at the present time. A cheap source of this acid would undoubtedly greatly increase our present industrial utilization of this product. Citric Acid of which we at one time were importing as much as $3,000,000 worth, we are now obtaining chiefly from Hawaii, can be manufactured from molasses and bagasse by the Cahn process, with yields of as high as 17% on the weight of the molasses, or at present prices, of 29 cents per pound, at a value of 58 cents per gallon of blackstrap. Undoubtedly a cheaper source of this acid will greatly enhance its usages which at present are for flavoring extracts, confectionery and soft drinks.

We have yet to mention one of the oldest of the products which we can produce from our residual sugars in molasses cane tops, bagasse and other residues from our factories, and here I refer to acetic acid. In 1934 we were importing approximately 30,000,000 pounds of this material at a valuation of nearly $2,000,000. We are greatly in need of a cheap source of acetic acid for the acetylization of cellulose in the industries, which Dr. W. J. Hale has so ably pointed out in his work "Prosperity Beckons." The production of rayon as he points out, was 200,000,000 pounds in this country in 1935, and the expansion of the cellulose acetate variety of celanese awaits only the arrival of a cheap source of acetic anhydride. Cheap alcohol, from farm wastes will provide the source of the cheap acetic acid, for which we have long looked and are still looking. Our 400,000 tons of residual bagasse, provide one of the best sources for the efficient oxidation of alcohol into acetic acid. Furthermore, as shown by Owen and Denson, the residual acetic acid left on the fibre, is one of the most effective known preventatives of its deterioration in storage.

With a cheap source of acetic acid, and with cane itself providing one of the best and cheapest sources of alpha cellulose, we will have the basis right on our plantations of constructing artificial fibre material which may be used as covers for the protection of plants in the tender stages of their growth.

We might continue this review of our potential resources in Chemurgy indefinitely, and still not exhaust their possible applications. I shall therefore leave this thought with you, that at last we are joining in a movement that proclaims the principle of "Prosperity through the Utilization of Abundance" not the "Prosperity of Scarcity". Farm Chemurgy teaches that the farmer must be provided with new markets and new outlets for the wastes of his fields, which have cost him just as much in proportion to produce, as has the salable part of his harvests. Chemurgy enfranchises the farmer from the lowly estate of peddling his produce to the kitchen doors of the public, or to the village warehouse. It liberates him and raises him to the dignified status of a man who manufactures, by the proper coordination of solar energy, plant growth, and soil fertility, the raw material for industrial usages.

Have I drawn too extravagantly upon my imagination in presenting this roseate picture of the future of our Domestic Cane Sugar Industry, when at present one third of our millable cane, is converted first into alcohol, then into solvents, such as Acetone and Butanol, or citric, acetic, and butyric acid our filter press mud, composed with cane trash, utilizing the nitrogen of the former to reduce the Carbon

Nitrogen Ration of the latter and thereby returning to our soils a considerable part of the Nitrogen that would otherwise be lost? Have I aroused hopes that can never be fulfilled, because of our being bound and shackled to the obsolete convictions that the function of the agriculturist has and must ever be that of providing only for man and animal nutrition, or material of vegetable origin for clothing, or for the comforts of his home? If in pointing to the burning masses of cane tops and trash in our cane fields, or to the molasses which we dispose of for a few cents per gallon, and buy the products made from it at prices extremely profitable to the manufacturer, as sources of profitable utilizations for you, I have aroused unrealizable hopes, the conviction of my error must await research and investigations yet to be made. There is not one present here today who can tell me that cane tops cannot be salvaged profitably for the production of "Motor Fuel", or that the development of our own biochemical industries from our millions of gallons of black strap molasses would not be profitable.

The "Agri-Crude" alcohol industry, if it be developed, will depend upon the contributions of our domestic cane sugar industry. We need only look at the ravages of drought in our corn belt, of present corn prices, and prospects for even higher ones, to realize that the initial success of alcohol motor fuel must be wrought from the products of domestic sugarcane. We have been selling molasses for five and six cents per gallon and this same molasses travels to the industrial centers of this country, and comes back to us in myriad forms, such as in artificial silk, drugs and medical supplies, in the lacquers on our cars, in the hydraulic brake fluids used in them, in leather substitutes for the seats, in paints and shellacs, in perfumes and tobacco, in lubricating oils and the fungicides that we use on the farm, and in hundreds of other materials that enter into our daily usages.

Our 18,000,000 gallons of molasses, if converted into the various products heretofore described should give us, in addition to our present profits from its sale,

$1,080,000 from Ethyl Alcohol
$2,340,000 from Solvents
$2,520,000 from Citric Acid
$1,780,000 from Acetic Acid.

Have we realized the opportunities that our domestic cane sugar industry enjoys, by virtue of being located in the greatest chemical manufacturing nation of the world? How many of us realize that we are making nearly one half the world's chemicals today, nearly three times as much as Germany, more than four times that of Great Britain? Where else in the world do we find the by products of the sugarcane produced within the confines of a great industrialized nation? Here in the heart of Louisiana we are connected by an all water route to the industrial centers of the nation, where all of the products recovered from our by products can be marketed.

For what are we waiting? Are we waiting for the industrial chemical syntheses of all the products which we know can be profitably made by natures processes? Where sugar now grows in Louisiana there once flourished a profitable indigo industry, and it was the synthesis of this product that led to the introduction of sugarcane. Artificial fibres of chemical manufacture are making deeper inroads each year into our cotton consumption, and while we are here in a serious discussion of alcohol from by products, the synthetic product is undergoing steady and increasing expansions. Is the answer to this a Moratorium on Chemical Progress, or an admission of the validity of the rule of Technocracy?

Nowhere are these fallacious reasonings more convincingly refuted than in "Farm Chemurgy", where every incentive, and every endeavor is for the utilization of chemical and biochemical processes, and every available science to develop new products, and to make more profitable usages of those that we have.

Synthetic ethanol, artificial fibres, synthetic rubber, and every synthetic product that we now have owe their origin, to one fact and one alone, and that is the one of cost. Alcohol made from by-products, molasses, for example, in distilleries owned by the cane factories, with no shipping charges on the raw material, at profits proportioned only to the desire to make these by products used as raw materials pay their pro rata share of the enterprise as a whole, would undoubtedly have maintained alcohol prices at a level that would have permanently discouraged a competitive synthetic product from entering the field.

To all of this the farmer would say, and wisely too, that the "shoemaker should stick to his last" and that the farmer must concern himself with the production of crops. What if the products of his fields, or the by products, have added untold millions to the industrialist, and the manufacturers, that his cotton seed, or the blackstrap from his cane have founded capitalistic dynasties throughout the Nation, of what concern is that to him? Until Farm Chemurgy came into being, it would have been futile to have enticed a group of farmers or sugar planters into the indiscriminate investment in factories or distilleries for the manufacture of chemicals from their crops or from the by products of their cooperatively owned factories. To whom would these products be sold and where would the markets be found?

"Farm Chemurgy" inventories and appraises prospective markets for these "Chemurgic" products, and takes in all of the potential sources of supply and demand. It unites the farming population of every community from Florida to Maine, from Louisiana to Alaska, in a joint effort to supply industry with new building stones for newer and greater developments. It points the way to an even greater utilization of chemical syntheses, but even more to one which we seem to have long ignored, and that is the synthesis of nature in its constant elaboration of carbohydrates and proteins, which we have been utilizing so inefficiently, and with so much misdirection.

If there is one secret formula, which has brought our gigantic chemical industry to the proud position it now holds in the world of industry it is the question that is asked of every waste or unutilized by product, and that is "what has it cost us?" and "what can be done with it?" Farm Chemurgy is asking us this question today with reference to our thousands of tons of carbohydrate bearing materials left in our cane tops, in our millions of gallons of waste molasses, in the sugars left in bagasse, in the nitrogen in our filter press mud, and we should not rest until we have answered them by fundamental investigation and adequate research.

And if our answer even partly confirms the appraisals that I have attempted to make, in this paper, we need only paraphrase the battle cry of Caleb to his fellow wanderers in the Wilderness as they stood at the barrier of the Promised Land, "Let us go into the land of Farm Chemurgy and possess it".

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THE
# SUGAR BULLETIN

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# The Sugar Industry As a Vital Factor In Our National Economic and Social System

*An address by Dr. J. Arthur Brock of Saginaw, Michigan Educational Secretary of the Farmers and Manufacturers Beet Sugar Association and Editor of the Sugar Beet Journal*
*Delivered on October 16, 1936 at the SOUTHERN CHEMURGIC CONFERENCE held at Lafayette, Louisiana October 15, 16, 17, 1936*

Mr. Kemper and Distinguished Guests:

In undertaking to speak on the topic, "The Sugar Industry as a Vital Factor in Our National Economic and Social System", I find comfort in the thought that no one will expect me, in the time at my command, either to exhaust my subject or transcend its limits.

While I am cognizant of the fact that the sugar industry is comprised of numerous segments, all of which might properly be discussed within the limits defined by the comprehensive topic assigned to me, I shall confine my remarks more particularly to those segments of the sugar industry which are engaged in the production of sugar in Continental United States from sugar cane and sugar beets actually grown in Continental United States. I take this liberty without prejudice and with full assurance that representatives of the other segments of the sugar industry are admirably able to extol the value and importance of their respective contributions to our national economic and social system.

I welcome this opportunity to discuss the continental sugar industry. I am firmly convinced that the continental sugar industry is preeminently a vital factor in our national economic and social system and because I know that the continental sugar industry is in perfect harmony with the Farm Chemurgic Council and in perfect agreement with all those who seek to encourage "a wider use of farm products in industry through the application of chemistry and science". Certainly no industry offers greater opportunities for scientific research and experimentation in keeping with the aims of the Farm Chemurgic movement.

Another reason I appreciate this opportunity to discuss the continental sugar industry is that I know of no other great American industry which has been the victim of more adverse legislation, or which has received less support, less encouragement and less cooperation from those millions of Americans it seeks to serve.

Further, I know of no other essential American industry which has been more viciously attacked, more vigorously maligned and more grossly misrepresented by sophists, theorists, ultra-intellectuals, foreigners, foreign investors and others who, for one reason or another, seek to impede its expansion, impair its efficiency or destroy it entirely.

Since there is a direct correlation between the importance of sugar to the physical well-being of the American people and the importance of the continental sugar industry to American agriculture and American industry, let us consider a few interesting facts about sugar.

There are two principal sources from which man can obtain sugar in commercial quantities, namely, the sugar cane and the sugar beet.

Although it is customary, in the parlance of commerce, to designate sugar extracted from sugar cane, as "cane sugar", and sugar extracted from the sugar beet, as "beet sugar", it is an established fact that cane sugar and beet sugar are identical in physical appearance, chemical composition and reaction, dietetic effect and uses, physiological properties, sweetening power and food value. In short, the different appellations are employed solely for the purpose of indicating the source from which the sugar was obtained.

As a food, it is generally conceded that sugar is the greatest fuel-food available to mankind, each pound of the article yielding 1,820 calories, and it is an established fact that approximately thirteen percent of all the energy, obtained from food, by the people of the United States, is provided by sugar.

THE
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Reginald Dykers, Editor

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Further, it is interesting to note that sugar is more easily digested than practically any other food since the simple inversion, which transforms sugar into a form which makes its utilization by the body possible, is completed within periods ranging from ten to thirty minutes after sugar has been swallowed, with comparatively little effort on the part of the digestive organs.

Finally, sugar is, in reality, the least expensive article of food consumed by the people of the United States since every dollar spent for sugar, ordinarily, gives the consumer more calories than an equivalent amount spent for any other article of diet.

Since the continental sugar industry is the instrumentality through which more than twenty-six percent of the sugar required by the American people is made available, it must be conceded that the continental sugar industry is preeminently a vital factor in our national economic and social system.

As we meditate on the importance of sugar to the physical well-being of man, it becomes apparent that it is vitally essential that the people of the United States have an adeqaute supply of sugar available at all times and under all conditions. Further, since sugar occupies an important place in the normal diet of all the people, it follows that sugar should be obtainable at reasonable prices at all times and under all conditions by all the people.

In the light of these facts, it becomes obvious that the people of the United States should wholeheartedly support the continental sugar industry and encourage its expansion and development. In short, people of the United States can never be fully assured of an adequate supply of sugar at all times and under all conditions unless the shackles are removed from the continental sugar industry and the industry is permitted, and encouraged, to materially increase the annual production of cane and beet sugar in Continental United States.

In this connection, let us consider, briefly, the situation with reference to our present sources of sugar. During the year 1935, the people of the United States consumed 11,961,393,900 pounds of refined sugar. Of this 4.84 percent was cane sugar, grown and processed in Louisiana and Florida; 22.11 percent was beet sugar, grown and processed in the sixteen beet sugar producing states of the United States; 28.28 percent originated in Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands; while 44.77 percent originated in foreign countries. In short, only 26.95 percent of the billions of pounds of sugar necessary to meet the annual sugar requirements of the American people, in 1935, was grown in Continental United States, on American farms, by American farmers, and processed in American factories by American workers.

Think of it! The people of the United States, with millions of acres of land admirably suitable for sugar cane and sugar beet growing at their command, found it necessary to import the equivalent of more than five billion pounds of refined sugar from foreign countries in order to supply their sugar requirements.

Obviously, those who oppose the expansion of our continental sugar industry and those who would have us increase, rather than decrease, our importations of foreign-grown sugar are advancing all manner of theories and arguments in support of their respective contentions. To the uninformed, many of these theories and arguments appear sound and reasonable, but to those of us who know the facts and those of us who realize that the present practice of importing foreign-grown sugar is detrimental to American agriculture and industry and to those of us who appreciate the real reason why certain individuals and groups seek to retard, if not destroy, our continental sugar industry, practically every argument and theory advanced thus far has been unsound, uneconomic, and, if I may use a word aptly employed recently by Governor Landon, "cockeyed".

If sugar were a surplus crop; if the production of sugar impoverished our soil; if the area suitable for sugar cane and sugar beet growing were limited; if sugar cane and sugar beets did not fit into our rotation systems; if the maintenance of our continental sugar industry worked a hardship upon the people of the United States; if we could at all times, and under all conditions, be assured of an adequate supply of sugar, at reasonable prices, from foreign countries; if the sugar industry of Continental United States had failed to combat sugar cane and sugar beet diseases; if the cane growers of the Southland had refused to develop or adopt new types of sugar cane; if the sugar beet growers of the North and West had failed to undertake the development and production of improved strains of seed; if the cultural practice in the South, North, and West, had not been improved; if the continental sugar industry were not in sympathy with the Farm Chemurgic objective and were not constantly striving, through the application of chemistry and science, to increase

yields and decrease costs on the farm and in the factory; and if the importation of foreign-grown sugar did not result in the denial of employment to American labor and deprive American farmers of an opportunity to produce a profitable non-surplus crop, we might find it possible to agree with those who declare our industry to be unnecessary, expensive, inefficient and undesirable. In fact we might be willing to concede that our industry be given "a shot in the arm" in order that it might enjoy a peaceful death at the hands of those distinguished American gentlemen and alleged scholars who are clamoring for its early extermination. Yes, if these things were true we might even find it possible to agree with the internationalists and utopianists who are, apparently, more concerned about the agricultural and industrial prosperity of foreign countries than they are about the welfare of American agriculture, American industry and American labor.

But—we do not agree with these learned individuals, rather we most emphatically disagree with them, with their erroneous conclusions and with their un-American ideas, aims and ambitions. We disagree, not because we are engaged in the production of sugar in the United States, but rather, because we are acquainted with facts which they either ignore, fail to observe or deliberately refuse to admit. For example: Sugar is not a surplus crop, as is evidenced by the fact that we are compelled to import billions of pounds of foreign-grown sugar annually in order to meet our normal sugar requirements. The growing of sugar cane or sugar beets does not impoverish our soil. The area suitable for sugar cane and sugar beet growing in the United States is sufficient to enable us to produce within Continental United States every pound of sugar required by the American people without disturbing our general farm programs. All agronomists are agreed that sugar cane and sugar beet growing do fit into our crop rotation systems. Every well informed person knows that the maintenance of our continental sugar industry does not work a hardship on the people of the United States but rather, that the competition afforded by our continental sugar industry is directly responsible for the fact that sugar is the least expensive of all foods consumed by the American people. Further, it is obvious that the people of the United States cannot be assured of an adequate supply of sugar, at all times and under all conditions, so long as they are dependent upon foreign countries for over 44 percent of the sugar they require.

Certainly it cannot be denied that; the continental sugar industry has made remarkable progress in combating disease and insects; that new and improved types of cane have been developed and introduced; that marked progress has been, and is being, made in sugar beet seed breeding and production; that cultural practices are being continually improved and perfected; and that the continental sugar industry has expended millions of dollars in scientific research and experimentation along lines which are in perfect harmony with the objective of the Farm Chemurgic Council, namely, "a wider use of farm products in industry through the application of chemistry and science".

Finally, it must be agreed, by every straight-thinking, unbiased, and informed individual, that the importation of foreign-grown sugar does result in the denial of gainful employment to American workers and does deprive American farmers of an opportunity to engage in the production of a non-surplus and profitable agricultural commodity.

Let us consider, briefly, why the importation of millions of tons of foreign sugar into the United States is detrimental to American agriculture, American labor and American industry.

For the sake of convenience let us assume that an acre of land will produce the equivalent of three thousand pounds of refined sugar. Using this figure as a basis, we find that the annual importation of foreign sugar is equivalent to what could easily be produced on approximately two million acres of land. I am aware of the fact that two million acres do not represent a very large area in a country the size of the United States but, when we consider that, if two million additional acres were devoted to sugar cane and sugar beet growing, the purchasing power of American agriculture would be increased by between sixty and seventy million dollars annually. the desirability of producing at home all the sugar required to supplant that now being imported from foreign countries becomes apparent.

Of course, I realize that, at a time when we Americans think in terms of billions of dollars, sixty or seventy million dollars may not seem like very much money. However, I submit that the thrifty American farmers who know the value of a dollar, having had to earn their bread by the sweat of their brow, could purchase a lot of tractors, farm machinery, fence posts, building material, automobiles, radios, clothing, yes, they could pay off many a farm mortgage, if their total farm income were increased by sixty or seventy million dollars a year.

Now a word concerning the effect of sugar imports upon American labor. According to an extensive study which I was privileged to make several years ago, I find that eight man hours of labor are required to produce one hundred pounds of sugar. In other words, the sugar imported by the people of the United States in 1935 represented a total of 428,417,736 man hours of work. Assuming that it requires one man hour of labor to refine one hundred pounds of sugar, and assuming that every pound of the foreign grown cane sugar consumed by the people of Continental United States were refined in the United States, we are confronted with the startling fact that, during the year 1935, when millions of American wage earners tramped the streets of our cities and the broad highways of the nation, ever searching for employment, we imported 374,865,519 man hours of foreign labor in the form of foreign grown sugar. I submit that any plan or program, which condones or provides for the importation of foreign labor in the form of sugar, or any other commodity which could and should be produced by American labor, is unworthy of the support of the American people.

In the absence of complete figures, I have taken the liberty to employ such information as I was able to obtain as a basis for the data I am about to present as a basis for my argument in support of the contention that our continental sugar industry is a vital factor in our national economic and social system. In short, I was able to obtain complete and accurate figures from a large and representative group of growers and processors. From these figures I have made such calculations as were necessary to present, what I believe to be, a reasonably true

picture of the importance of our continental sugar industry to American agriculture and industry.

During the year 1935, the continental sugar industry produced a total of 2,797,867,000 pounds of refined sugar, valued at approximately $103,118,304, and by-products valued at approximately $18,000,000. In other words, the continental sugar industry produced, on American farms and in American factories, new wealth valued at approximately $121,118,304. Thus, the continental sugar industry was the medium through which more than $121,000,000 were added to the purchasing power of the people of the United States.

In the production of this new wealth, a total of approximately 100,000 farmers were permitted to engage in the growing of a profitable non-surplus crop, and hundreds of thousands of wage earners, together with the farmers, were provided with 223,829,360 man hours of gainful employment.

These figures, however, do not present the complete story of the continental sugar industry's contribution to the agricultural and industrial welfare of the American people. Therefore I ask your indulgence while I present a few additional figures which will serve to support, in part at least, the contention that the continental sugar industry is a vital factor in our national economic and social system. For example, I find that in one year the continental sugar industry purchased:

2,000,000 tons of coal, coke and limerock
36,000,000 gallons of fuel oil
$ 6,000,000 worth of bags
$ 2,000,000 worth of repair and maintenance supplies
$ 2,000,000 worth of new equipment
$ 650,000 worth of miscellaneous supplies
$ 419,000 worth of valves and fittings
$ 387,000 worth of chemicals and laboratory supplies
$ 367,000 worth of cotton filter cloth
$ 249,000 worth of boiler and non-ferrous tubes
$ 269,000 worth of filter aids
$ 152,000 worth of lubricating oil
$ 144,000 worth of refractories
$ 142,000 worth of knives
$ 3,000,000 worth of fertilizer.

together with hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of tractors, farm machinery and farm equipment. Further, it is estimated that the industry paid approximately $20,000,000 to railroads and transportation companies and over $17,000,000 in state and federal taxes.

At this point, permit me to remind you that these purchases and this vast expenditure of money were required, not to produce all the sugar consumed by the American people, but only about one quarter of the sugar they require annually.

In the light of the facts and figures which I have presented, we arrive at the following conclusions, namely: that the sugar industry of Continental United States is truly a vital factor in our national economic and social system; that as such its continuance and expansion should be encouraged by every true American who believes that it is in the interest of the common good, in the interest of American agriculture, in the interest of American industry and in the interest of American labor, for the United States to produce at home insofar as is practical, those essential articles of food which an omniscient God has made it possible for us to produce. If we fail in this regard, then truly we are unworthy of our stewardship.

Unfortunately, I have not had an opportunity to confer with Mr. Kemper, who is to follow me on this program, but I am sure he will forgive me if I encroach upon his subject to the extent of calling your attention to certain problems which are confronting both branches of the continental sugar industry. At this point may I remind you that I have an abiding conviction that the greatest error, thus far made by the continental sugar industry as a whole, is that we have failed to recognize the fact that, in matters vital to our industry, we usually go down to defeat for no other reason than that we fail to bring all segments of the continental sugar industry together and together work, and if need be fight, for our common cause.

Let us consider, briefly, a few of the problems and tasks confronting the continental sugar industry. For example, there is the problem of having certain legislation enacted which will make it possible for the continental sugar industry to live, develop and expand. Then there is the task of making the people of the United States recognize and appreciate that the continental sugar industry is a vital factor in our national and economic system. In addition, we are confronted with the task of enlisting the wholehearted support and cooperation of the American people in the defense of the continental sugar industry. Finally, we are confronted with the problem of impressing the American people with the fact that a healthy, adequate and prosperous continental sugar industry is essential to national defense, and that it is their only assurance of an adequate supply of sugar at all times, under all conditions and at reasonable prices.

No one can deny that much has been, and is being, done to solve some of these problems and perform some of these tasks but the fact remains that much remains to be accomplished. The life of our industry is in jeopardy, forces that seek to prevent its development are powerful. Certainly no single segment of our industry can successfully combat these powerful forces and, while we may win a single battle or accomplish a single end as segments, working independently of each other, let us recognize the fact that we will never have complete victory until we think, plan, work and fight cooperatively for the common good.

That cooperative effort can be made has been clearly demonstrated during the past few years, during which time two great organizations, the American Sugar Cane League and the Farmers and Manufacturers Beet Sugar Association have worked together for the common cause and fought shoulder to shoulder in the defense of their industry.

True, no decisive victories have been won, but I declare that the American Sugar Cane League and the Farmers and Manufacturers Beet Sugar Association, working and fighting as a solid unit, have never as yet sounded the note to retreat and I venture to predict that we never will.

In response to a number of requests, I shall devote the balance of the time at my disposal to presenting a few facts concerning the various activities of the Farmers and Manufacturers Beet Sugar Association and the sugar beet purchase contract which has been used in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana during the past five years.

In this connection, may I say parenthetically that

I am pleased to know that the American Sugar Cane League is a very similar organization, being composed of growers and processors who are operating under a purchase contract sponsoring many important and essential research and other activities.

The Farmers and Manufacturers Beet Sugar Association is a grower-processor organization in fact as well as in name, since its membership includes an equal number of growers and processors. Further, the activities of the Association are under the direct supervision and control of a Board of Directors consisting of eight actual sugar beet growers and eight beet sugar processors. Thus the producers of raw material have equal voice and vote with the processors in its management, direction and the supervision of its expenditures.

The purposes of the Association are:

—to promote friendly relations between sugar beet growers and beet sugar processors.

—to harmonize the interests of the sugar beet growers and the beet sugar processors.

—to promote and increase the sale and consumption of beet sugar in advantageous territories through the medium of advertising, education and instruction.

—to develop and improve marketing facilities and agencies.

—to improve distribution methods.

—to reduce the cost of marketing beet sugar.

—to correct erroneous ideas concerning beet sugar.

—to inform the public relative to the economic importance and value of the beet sugar industry.

—to develop and encourage methods of improving, and standardizing, the product of beet sugar factories.

—to increasing beet sugar factory efficiency.

—to develop and encourage the adoption of improved cultural practices.

—to assist sugar beet growers in the control of sugar beet diseases and insect pests.

—to conduct experiment and research in cultural practices and sugar beet seed improvement.

In general, to improve, develop and safeguard the interest of the beet sugar industry; to improve conditions in the industry; to promote its success by all lawful methods; and to provide a medium through which both the sugar beet growers and the beet sugar processors may harmoniously discuss, and solve, their mutual problems.

At the present time, the Farmers and Manufacturers Beet Sugar Association represents practically every sugar beet grower and beet sugar processor in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana.

Immediately following the organization of the Association, four years ago, an extensive educational campaign was launched. This campaign was and now is conducted through the medium of addresses delivered before women's clubs, businessmen's organizations, luncheon clubs, farmers organizations, fraternal bodies, and to large groups of high school, college and University students. From time to time addresses are delivered over the radio and before special groups such as cooking schools and home economic classes in high schools. According to conservative estimates, more than a million persons have heard the story of home grown sugar and the continental sugar industry through the medium of Association broadcasts and a total of more than four hundred thousand persons have attended the meetings addressed by Association representatives.

Supplementing this phase of the Association's educational activities an extensive newspaper publicity campaign is being carried on continuously. Canning and cooking demonstrations have been conducted throughout the three states and the Association maintains exhibits at many of the State and County Fairs, food shows and other places where large groups attend.

In addition to the educational activities of the Association, an intensive newspaper advertising program is being carried on. This campaign is designed primarily to reach the homemakers and create a consumer demand for home grown sugar. A staff of specialty men is maintained, these men making regular calls upon all of the retail grocers in their respective territories for the purpose of distributing posters and advertising literature. In addition, these men enlist the cooperation of the retailers in boosting home grown sugar.

True, much remains to be accomplished but it is generally conceded that the educational and advertising activities of the Association have materially increased the sale of home grown sugar in advantageous territory and the people of Michigan, Ohio and Indiana are rapidly becoming informed relative to the importance of our continental sugar industry

Realizing that the sugar beet growers were confronted with many difficult and perplexing agricultural problems and appreciating the need for experimentation, research, demonstrations, and the improvement of cultural practices, the Association perfected an intensive and extensive agricultural program. While the work of the Association's agricultural department has not been carried on for a sufficiently long period to enable me to present any specific data relative to its value and accomplishments, it is conceded that much progress has been and is being made and it is with confidence that, in due time, the Association will be able to contribute much to the science and art of sugar beet growing, fertilizer practices and disease and insect control. Considerable attention is being given to the matter of developing improved strains of seed and to the possibility of producing sugar beet seed in the United States.

Time does not permit the presenting of complete details relative to the numerous activities of the Association. Therefore I shall just refer, briefly, to a few.

In conjunction with the American Sugar Cane League, the Association maintains an office in Washington through which all matters of a legislative nature are handled. This office is rapidly becoming recognized as the fountain-head for information and statistics concerning sugar and I have an abiding conviction that the work of this office constitutes one of our most important activities.

A sugar control laboratory is maintained at Saginaw, Michigan, where samples of all sugar strikes are examined for grain size and chemical purity.

In addition, a bacteriological laboratory is maintained at Lansing, Michigan, where all sugar strike samples are carefully examined, and, during the past two years, the Association in conjunction with the State of Michigan has established an experimental stream pollution control station at Bay City, Michigan.

While it is true that the various activities of the Association cost considerable money, after four years, the sugar beet growers and sugar beet processors are

in agreement that every dollar expended in the support of Association activities has brought or will bring excellent results.

Now a word relative to the sugar beet purchase contract which has been used in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana during the past five years. The outstanding and most interesting feature of this contract is that it is based on the sound principle that, in the production of new wealth, the farmers and processors should receive their just share of the net cash returns from the sale of the wealth they jointly produce. In other words, the terms of the sugar beet purchase contract now being used in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana provide that the growers are to receive one half of the net cash returns from the sale of the sugar, pulp and molasses produced.

In arriving at the decision to insert the so-called "50-50 Division" clause in the sugar beet purchase contract, the sugar processors were not motivated by any altruistic ideas. Rather the adoption of this clause, which provides that the farmers and the processors are to share equally in the division of the net cash return from the sale of sugar, pulp and molasses, was justified by the fact that, after careful study, it was found that it costs the average efficient sugar beet grower the same amount of money to produce one ton of sugar beets, as it costs the processor to process one ton of beets. In this connection, I would call your attention to the fact that the beet sugar contract, now being used in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana, has been pronounced by Farm leaders and agricultural economists to be the most fair and equitable farm crop purchase contract ever devised.

The adoption of this contract was largely responsible for the rehabilitation of the beet sugar industry in eastern United States. It has been instrumental in bringing about harmonious relations between the sugar beet growers and the beet sugar processors and it has helped prove that there can be a true alliance between agriculture and industry.

What the future holds for American agriculture and American industry I do not know, but this I do know, namely, that though overwhelming forces may deal us staggering blows, we will never have to drink the bitter dregs of defeat if we work together, ever mindful that our cause is just, and ever conscious that the genesis of progress is not to be found in the shifting sand of academical theories or in impractical plans and unworkable programs but rather in a combination of chemistry and work, appropriately known as Farm Chemurgic.

# Social Security Act

*(By C. J. Bourg)*

We have many inquiries about the Social Security Act and the status of employees in the business of growing sugarcane and processing it into sugar. Several months ago we secured an opinion from the Bureau of Internal Revenue regarding the exemption of employees in sugarhouses as "agricultural labor". We cited the decision of the United States Supreme Court which recognized the processing of sugarcane as a continuation of the agricultural operation. At that time the Bureau of Internal Revenue gave the opinion (reproduced in the August 15th issue of the *Sugar Bulletin*) that only the processing of the sugarcane belonging to and grown by the owner of the sugarhouse would properly come under the heading of the agricultural operation, and that the processing of sugarcane grown by other farmers and purchased from them by the owner of the sugarhouse seemed to be mode of an industrial operation, under the provisions of the Social Security Act. It was stated, however, that no official ruling would be made by the Bureau except upon an application for exemption or a statement of facts as they apply to the individual and submitted by him to the Collector of Internal Revenue at New Orleans or direct to the Bureau of Internal Revenue at Washington.

It is probable that the local or State offices of the Social Security Board will have official information on this and other subjects in connection with the Act. We have also been asked whether Forms SS-4 and SS-5 should be completed and filed by the owners of sugarhouses, and we suggest that these forms should be filed by the employers and employees to cover all employment except that which is conclusively agricultural labor. Then later claim for exemption can be filed, if desired or necessary.

We suggest that since the social security program is something new which is being inaugurated by the United States Government, there will necessarily have to be a great deal of latitude allowed at the outset,

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before the program will be applied strictly and smoothly. It will possibly become necessary for the auditors and attorneys of the individual employers to be consulted, in addition to keeping in close touch with the local or State officers who will have charge of the program in Louisiana, both in the matter of the payment of taxes and the application of the benefits of the program in this State.

## Final Benefit Payments

*(By C. J. Bourg)*

The final checks in settlement of the AAA benefit payments on the 1935 sugarcane crop have been distributed to practically all of the growers to whom a balance was payable. There has been some delay in determining the administrative procedure covering the contracts which were made the subject of joint compliance by growers having more than one farm. The procedure has now been cleared and the contracts under joint compliance are moving forward to the disbursing officer for payment. Despite the penalties of $1,900,000.00 inflicted under Ruling 5, approximately $800,000.00 has been distributed in Louisiana during the past several weeks in final settlement of the 1935 crop.

Letters from the AAA requesting refunds of overpayments made under the Production Adjustment Contracts, are being sent to growers in Louisiana in accordance with the usual formality of Government Departments where their records indicate overpayment. In the case of sugarcane growers these requests for refund are mostly those where the grower had a greater acreage in sugarcane than his base acreage under the contract, and from which he delivered more sugarcane than his base production. Other cases involve over-estimates of production, which resulted in the grower being paid more money in the advance-payment check than has been found to be due him in final settlement. And there are the cases of clerical errors made somewhere along the line of administration. We are not informed of the policy of the Administration with regard to the enforcement and collection of these refunds, although we expect an announcement thereon may be made very soon. There are interesting legal questions involved, in view of the decision of the Supreme Court invalidating the contracts and the subsequent recognition of the "moral obligation" of the Federal Government and the appropriation of funds by Congress for paying all obligations and commitments. The delicate subject of moral obligations and conscientious scruples is one which we appropriately leave to the mental reactions of our readers.

In this connection, we have received the verbal official reassurance that in the case of penalties imposed in larger amounts than were due in the final settlement on the 1935 crop by the Government to the grower, no refunds will be claimed by the AAA. Thus, although the records of the growers involved will show this balance, it is the declared intention of the AAA to consider the final settlement on the 1935 crop as final, which seems to be entirely proper in view of the peculiar status of the grower under the invalidated AAA contracts, which have been kept alive by Congress for the exclusive purpose of meeting the obligations and commitments of the United States made and accepted in good faith.

## Sugar Means Health

In the battle of modern life the chief high explosive is sugar.

Three-quarters of the driving power of both the animal and vegetable kingdoms is furnished by sugar. Not a twitch of any group of our muscles, not a throb of our hearts, not a flash of our imaginations, but is produced by the combustion of our commonest sugar, glucose.

Never in all the history of science has our attitude toward any food been so radically altered as it has toward this new staff of life within the last 10 years. Less than a generation ago all self-styled authorities on dietetics, from the priest and the puritan to the dentist and the doctor, were almost unanimous in fiercely denouncing sugar and all its works.

According to their jeremiads, sugar decayed the teeth, it spoiled the appetite, upset the digestion, stunted the growth of children, hardened the arteries and was the chief cause of rheumatism, cancer, gout, and insanity.

But now what a change! Satan is well-nigh transformed into an angel of light. We find that we had simply got our telescope wrong end to.

In fact, the short-lived and comparatively trifling disturbances due to sugar imbibed in excessive amounts or at unsuitable times—such as just before a meal—were mere spots on the sun, flies in the amber.

We had been concentrating our entire attention upon these trivial drawbacks and ignoring sugar's superb value and wholesomeness as a food and absolute indispensability as a source of power and heat. "No Life Without Sugar" and "In Sweetness Is Strength" are our mottoes to-day.

One of the earliest scientific defenders of sugar was the famous German researcher, Liebig, who established the epoch-making fact that all life and movement were due to the combustion of fuel. Nine-tenths of the fuel of our bodies was starchy—such as bread, biscuits, cereals, rice, potatoes, corn, tapioca—and every grain of the starch they contained was turned into sugar in the form of glucose before it was digested and burned.

If, therefore, our whole system is filled constantly with a dilute solution of sugar, this slandered sweet can hardly be the dangerous food and deadly poison it was declared to be. But it has taken more than half a century for this clear and simple idea to be generally accepted. Sugar has also been vigorously denounced by the fat hunters; but sugar is a food prepared to be burned, not for storage. Its real danger to our waistlines is that a small amount of it will make so tasty large amounts of the high-voltage foods such as bread and cereals, that we may be tempted to devour more of them than we can use at once—and thus begin to pile up the reserve adipose that is so disturbing to our contours.

As a matter of fact, a dilute solution of sugar in the blood is so absolutely necessary to life that if it drops a few parts in the thousand below the normal level, as sometimes occurs when treating diabetes with insulin, and a slight overdose is given, the patient feels faint and dizzy at once. This can almost always be promptly relieved by eating a sweet orange, or its equivalent in sugared water, thus bringing the sugar level of the blood back to normal.

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# THE SUGAR BULLETIN

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We stand for the encouragement of Home Industries as against Foreign Competition.

Vol. 15 NEW ORLEANS, LA., DECEMBER 15, 1936 No. 6

## The League Plays An Ace

The American Sugar Cane League, which has served the current generation of sugar planters ably and well for fifteen years, acted on December 4th to insure to succeeding generations a share of its accomplishments.

At a special meeting of the Executive Committee of the League a motion was adopted setting aside the sum of $25,000 towards the erection of a model Experiment Station Building, of fireproof construction and designed by Goverment architects, at the site of the U. S. Sugar Plant Field Station at Houma. In order that suitable ground may be assured it was likewise moved and carried that the League offer Realty Operators, Inc., seventy-five dollars an acre for 20 acres of land on which to erect the building and its subsidiaries and appurtenances.

Realty Operators, Inc., have indicated that the price offered is satisfactory to them and such delays as may occur in the actual transfer of the site will be due to legal technicalities that have to be ironed out.

The title to the building and the land are to be transferred to the U. S. Department of Agriculture by the League for a nominal consideration of one dollar, or the smallest sum that may be legally competent to serve, and will function in perpetuity to house the corps of scientists and the expensive paraphernalia of the Department which are necessary for carrying on here in the Louisiana sugar district the sugarcane varietal work and the chemical, entomological, soil building and other magnificently helpful activities that the Department has been engaged in at the Houma Station for a number of years under cramped and inadequate housing conditions. Work will begin on the construction of the building just as soon as a transfer of the land from Realty Operators, Inc., to the League can be effected.

The League's financial set-up calling for dues of only 1 cent a ton on cane is more or less restrictive of its accomplishments. In contrast, the Hawaiians have a budget for their annual activities that reputedly calls for around half a million dollars, most of which is spent in scientific work; the so-called "Eastern" beet sugar industry in Ohio, Indiana and Michigan, spends for its advancement, through its Association, over $100,000 a year; in what is called the "Western" beet sugar territory the contracts with the growers authorize the factories to collect as high as 3 cents a ton of beets covering dues of one sort or another in addition to the contributions made by the factories. The American Sugar Cane League with its dues placed at only 1 cent a ton is able only occasionally to make a constructive gesture in Louisiana as comprehensive as the one we are now discussing.

The work that has been carried on at the Houma Station, and which was made possible by the erection there of a small frame laboratory building by the League in 1925, followed later by two others, has resulted in the dissemination throughout the Louisiana sugar industry of varieties of cane that have revitalized the business of sugar production in this State. It would be superfluous to dwell on this universally acknowledged fact. In addition the work done on the chemistry of soils, drainage problems, insect control, plant pathology, and on the chemistry of sugar

THE
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Reginald Dykers, Editor

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Bronier Thibaut, Napoleonville, La.
Robt. Morrison, Cut Off, La.
A. E. St. Martin, Wallace, La.
Charles O'Brien, Bunkie, La.
James A. Lanier, Napoleonville, La.
George Germany, Loreauville, La.
John J. Shaffer, Ellendale, La.
Leon Landry, New Iberia, La.
David W. Pipes, Jr., Houma, La.
Percy A. Lemann, Donaldsonville, La.

**and syrup manufacture has added millions of dollars to the income of our sugar planters. For this work the Government, at the outset, allowed an appropriation of only $5,000 a year and the services of one or two men, but as the American Sugar Cane League, representing the Louisiana sugar industry, stepped forward with its resources which at that time were extremely meagre, and constructed a six thousand dollar building and then another and then still another, the Government recognized the earnestness of the co-operation it was getting from this organization, and more money and more men were forthcoming, until now a corps of 15 technicians, every man a specialist in his line and hard to replace, are working at the Houma Station and the money appropriated by the Government for salaries and expenses has risen from the initial $5000.00 to $113,000 a year.**

**A calamity befell this little scientific community in 1934. One of the buildings, the second one constructed by the League, burned down. From that time on the men have worked in quarters so cramped and inadequate that it is not only a hardship on them and an injustice to them but it prevents them from giving the best that is in them. That is a situation that must be remedied and the League's decision to insure the erection of a fine, fireproof, specially designed edifice in which they may work comfortably and efficiently is the answer to it. It is the right answer; the competent, capable answer; the sort of answer the American Sugar Cane League has made to every critical question that has confronted it during its existence.**

**The building will be a symbol of co-operative achievement, for it is hoped that the subscription list will include many other contributions besides the major one offered by the League. It will be something of which we shall be proud, not merely because of its architecture or its materials but because it represents a praiseworthy spirit in our people.**

## What Price Iowa?

In a pamphlet issued by the United States Department of Agriculture entitled "Unshackling Our Export Trade" appears the following statement:

> "People talk a great deal about the desirability of becoming self-sufficient in sugar production in the United States. Yet during the first 12 months after the Cuban trade treaty went into effect in September, 1934, opening the doors a little wider for the entrance of Cuban sugar into the United States, American lard exports to Cuba nearly doubled, with an increase of 16 million pounds. This increase alone represents a demand for the corn-hog production from 80,000 average Iowa corn acres, or the equivalent of the entire average sugar-beet acreage of the State of Nebraska, which is one of the principal sugar-beet States."

The acreage in sugar beets in Nebraska is about one twentieth of the total sugar beet and sugar cane acreage in the United States.

To sell the Nebraska sugar beet acreage down the river for an equivalent acreage of corn in Iowa might, therefore, not be calamitous in a nation-wide sense, but the proposition, and especially the suavity of it, harbors a sinister principle which may well frighten the cultivators of the other nineteen twentieths.

The inclination of the U. S. Department of Agriculture to measure the value of its achievements by an Iowa yard stick is in bad taste, Iowa being the home State of Secretary Wallace. It would have been much more graceful, and at least equally true, to say that the more they open the doors for the entrance of Cuban sugar into the United States the more the New York holders of Cuban sugar stocks can get for their certificates. That would have been a polished utterance, above all criticism by Emily Post, and the Secretary could have taken care of Iowa by a mental reservation.

# Basis for 1937 Puerto Rico Sugar Quotas

An official release to the press on November 25th, 1936, entitled "Basis for Allotment of 1937 Puerto Rico Sugar Quota" resulted in a break in the sugar market, the trade drawing from it the inference that materially larger 1937 quotas for all areas were to be expected. It is of interest chiefly as an evidence of how delicately responsive the market is to the touch of the U. S. Secretary of Agriculture. The release reads as follows:

"The basis upon which the 1937 Puerto Rican sugar quota will be allotted to processors was announced today by the Sugar Section of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. The 1937 quotas have not been announced yet, but the basis of allotments was announced so that processors and producers in Puerto Rico who are now preparing to harvest this season's crop may have the information upon which to base their plans.

"The basis for the allotments is contained in Puerto Rico Sugar Order No. 5 which has been signed by Acting Secretary of Agriculture Gregg. Authority for making the allotments is given by existing sugar legislation.

"Except for shipments of sugar from surplus stocks the allotment for each processor for marketing sugar in the United States under the 1937 sugar quota for Puerto Rico will be based on the total marketing allotments of the producers whose cane is ground. The producers' marketing allotments are to be calculated on the basis of the allotments of 1936, except in the case of new growers.

"There are about 8,000 independent cane growers in Puerto Rico who sell cane to the mills. Practically all the mills in Puerto Rico are also large producers of cane. Since the total cane supply for the 1937 crop may be more than is required to meet the 1937 United States marketing quota and local consumption, taking into account the carry-over of about 121,000 tons of sugar, equitable allotment of the marketing quota to all producers is contemplated under the order.

"The order provides that 25,000 tons of the total 1937 quota for Puerto Rico may be filled from surplus stocks of sugar and the balance of the quota may be filled from the processing of the 1937 crop.

"The 25,000 tons to be filled from surplus stocks will be allotted to processors in proportion to the quantities of such stocks held by the respective processors, as of December 31, 1936, either in Puerto Rico or in customs' custody in the United States.

"The allotment among processors of the balance of the 1937 sugar quota for Puerto Rico is to be made on the basis of the amount of sugar produced from the 1936-37 crop of sugarcane to which 1937 producers' marketing allotments relate.

"There will be added to the allotments made to growers in 1936, including the allotments made to processors who are also growers, the allotments of any new growers and the total of such marketing allotments will be adjusted to the total 1937 sugar marketing quota, less the 25,000 tons which is to be filled from surplus stocks.

"The individual growers for whom marketing allotments are to be calculated will be the growers who control the use of the land in 1937. The order, however, provides that in the case of a person who does not have such control his marketing allotment will be included in the total, if he submits evidence satisfactory to the Sugar Section of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration that he had such control prior to 1937 and he cultivated the 1936-37 crop.

"If a grower is unable to fill the 1937 marketing allotment included for him, the order provides that the unfilled portion is to be reallocated among all other growers within the same mill area who are able to supply the deficiency, in proportion to 1937 marketing allotments of such growers and to the extent that such growers are able to supply the deficiency.

"It is provided in Public Resolution No. 109 that the quotas for the respective sugar producing areas for 1937 shall be the same as the initial quotas established by the Secretary of Agriculture for the calendar year 1936, subject to modification or adjustment for increased consumption or other conditions set out in the Agricultural Adjustment Act, as amended. Consumption in the United States is at a higher level than the basis of the initial quotas established for 1936 which resulted in an initial Puerto Rican 1936 quota of 801,297 tons. The final 1936 quota for Puerto Rico, as the result of increased consumption and reallotment of deficits in supplies in other areas, was 901,839 tons."

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# Comments from Washington; Initial Quotas for 1937 Announced

*(By C. J. Bourg)*

Seldom before has the saying "all is quiet along the Potomac" been so thoroughly expressive of the situation in Washington as it is today with reference to sugar. Officially the AAA has announced no plans for continuing the sugar program beyond 1937, although it is admitted that some form of legislation is needed next year. The Sugar Section declares that it has no recommendations to make or any legislative program to offer, except to point to the last official expressions of the Department of Agriculture as represented in the letter by the Secretary of Agriculture of May 7, 1936, and the bills introduced in Congress by Administration leaders. Therefore, unless there is some attempt to bring about a meeting of the minds before Congress seriously begins its deliberations, we will have made no progress legislatively but must face the same situation as existed in June when Congress decided to pass a simple resolution and to postpone a legal expression of its intentions with respect to the sugar problems.

The statistics of the Department of Agriculture recently released show that for the first ten months of 1936 there was a delivery of sugar for consumption amounting to 5,495,898 short tons raw value. Deliveries during the same period last year, converted to raw value on a comparable basis, total 5,670,394 short tons. Thus on the basis of the official figures there has been a decrease in consumption for the first ten months of 1936 as compared to the first ten months of 1935, amounting to 174,496 short tons. It is expected that the November figures will show some increase, but so far they have not been made available for publication. These figures are interesting chiefly to the extent that they reflect the trend of consumption to date in the United States.

### 1937 Quotas Announced

**The Agricultural Adjustment Administration announced on December 12 the sugar and sirup quotas for Nineteen Thirty-Seven established in accordance with provisions of Public Resolution No. 109 and the Jones Costigan Act. The initial sugar quotas for Nineteen Thirty-Seven total 6,682,670 short tons raw value. This is approximately the amount of sugar made available for Nineteen Thirty-Six (6,812,687 short tons raw value) after taking into account the entries of sugar under bond during December Nineteen Thirty-Five which totalled approximately 127,000 tons and which were charged against the Nineteen Thirty-Six quotas. The initial quotas for Nineteen Thirty-Seven represent an increase of 248,582 tons over the initial Nineteen Thirty-Six quotas which totaled 6,434,088 tons. The initial sugar quotas for Nineteen Thirty-Seven for the various sugar producing areas are as follows: Continental United States beet sugar producing area 1,613,576, the States of Louisiana and Florida, 270,664, Territory of Hawaii, 976,685, Puerto Rico, 831, 508, Philippines, 1,035,742, Virgin Islands, 5,462, Cuba, 1, 922,-423, Foreign Countries other than Cuba, 26,-610. The sirup quotas are in terms of wine gallons of seventy-two percent total sugar content as follows: Cuba 7,970,558, Dominican Republic, 830,894, other Foreign Countries, none.**

Entries of sugar during the first eleven months of 1936 and charged against off-shore quotas, according to the announcement for the first eleven months of 1936, indicate that there remain for entry in the last 30 days of the year approximately 140,000 tons of which about 42,000 tons must come from Cuba, about 25,000 tons from the Philippines, about 13,000 tons from Puerto Rico and 57,000 tons from Hawaii. There seems little doubt about the ability of all areas to fill their quotas, unless it be in the case of Hawaii whose sugars are usually imported through Western seaports. For some time the seamen's strike on the West Coast has amounted to a blockade of sugar not only with regard to the entry by the unloading of ships carrying sugar cargoes, but even with respect to sugars stored in harbor warehouses. Because of the comparatively small amount of sugar remaining to be entered against the 1936 quota, it is believed that the Hawaiian quota will be exhausted before January 1st, although it may be necessary to resort to more or less heroic methods to fulfill the requirements and formalities of quota regulations. At any rate, there will apparently be no necessity for reallocations in this case.

Speaking of reallocations, there has been a rather interesting development with regard to the reallocation of 97,909 tons of Philippine sugar as of date July 27th. According to the Philippine Independence Act 800,000 tons of raw sugar and 50,000 tons of refined sugar (which converts into raw value at 956,000 tons) can be imported into the United States free of duty. All sugars above this amount are required to pay the full world rate of duty amounting to 1.87½¢ per pound of 96 degree sugar. During the latter part of 1935, something more than 44,000 tons of Philippine sugar had been imported into the United States which were in excess of the quota for 1935, so that this amount was eventually delivered and charged against the Philippine quota of 1936. Thus the peculiar and rather awkward situation of having a quota figure different from the duty free limitation in the Philippine Independence Act, has presented itself. Accordingly it is expected that the final net Philippine quota of 1,000,829 tons will be delivered for consumption in 1936 and charged against this year's quota, although not more than 956,000 tons raw value of sugar have been imported and entered in customs. It is obvious that eventually the quota figures and the duty free figure must be made the same, unless the Filipinos would change their apparent intention of importing only duty free sugar. It is to be expected that this situation will be cured if and when the United States Government enters into a Reciprocal Trade Agree-

ment with the Philippine Islands and the Philippine Independence Act is amended, if such amendment becomes necessary.

All of these questions are appropriate to discuss because of the problem that each one presents in the determination of quotas and the necessary revision thereof to conform to actualities, rather than estimates. Of a similar nature was the problem of the inability of the beet sugar area to deliver its full quota of sugar, which problem was met by the AAA early this year by estimating a deficit of some 208,000 tons of beet sugar and the reallocation thereof to the other areas on a proportionate basis.

Bringing the matter down to the case of Louisiana, we find ourselves faced with the prospect of an initial quota of 270,664 tons for Louisiana and Florida, although present estimates indicate a production in these two states of some 400,000 tons of sugar. While the production year over-runs the calendar year in the case of both sugarcane producing States, it is evident that when the total amount of sugar produced is marketed, the quota will be exceeded. Fortunately in 1936, the deficit in the beet area and in the Philippine importations against quotas, plus the increase in the United States consumption of sugar, have made it possible to increase the quota by revisions and reallocations to an amount of 388,000 tons which will not be exceeded simply because deliveries in the calendar year will not be as great as production. The problem of the quota for Louisiana and Florida is of major importance both to the Federal Government and to the producing areas which supply sugar in the United States market. This problem becomes increasingly great as we note that the production of beet sugar in 1936 will probably approach nearer to the beet quota of 1,550,000 tons than it has for the past two years. When the beet production is reestablished to the extent that the beet quota can be delivered and the beet area can participate in its share of the increased consumption, the problem of Louisiana and Florida will no longer be susceptible of solution through ordinary revisions and reallocations. The sum and substance of the matter is that the problem is sufficiently serious and the time certainly opportune for Congress to make a final determination thereon during the Session of 1937.

In this connection, we have the assurances made upon the Floor of the House of Representatives by the Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture, the Honorable Marvin Jones of Texas, who in response to interpolations by Congressman Derouen of Louisiana and Congressman Green of Florida stated that because of the limited time remaining in the Session of Congress last June, the sugar problems of Louisiana and Florida should be made a primary consideration of his Committee and of Congress at the next Session, when public hearings would be held and full opportunity given to representatives of the industry and Members of the Congressional Delegations to present all of the facts to Congress for a judicious decision. Similar assurances of full consideration were also made in Committee and on the Floor of the Senate.

With regard to the general farm program which must sooner or later be adopted to replace the AAA, we so far have only generalizations upon which we may intelligently anticipate. The AAA has made known no plans, outside of the soil conservation program for 1937. Of course, this program is not considered by any Farmer group as being more than an auxiliary program. Certainly in the case of sugarcane and sugar beets the 12½¢ per one hundred pounds of sugar offered in 1936 and which has been announced will again be the sum offered in 1937, is not sufficient to restore the purchasing power of the grower and there is need for a program whereby the net returns to the farmer will be on the basis of parity, either through the sale of the products or by means of additional benefit payments.

It can be correctly stated at this time that the Secretary of Agriculture is awaiting the recommendations of the farmers themselves, although there are none who believe that he will be without a plan of his own if the farmers should not make recommendations which he is willing to sponsor.

The most definite statement to date was that contained in the address of the Secretary of Agriculture before the annual meeting of the American Farm Bureau Federation in California last week, to-wit:

"Now what are some of the essential elements of policy that will give the nation agricultural security in its broadest sense? Here are several which come to mind:

First—Opportunity for farmers to organize effectively in their own interests, insofar as such interests coincide with the general welfare.

Second—Farm prices that are fair and stable, to keep farm income on a basis of reasonable equality with non-farming income.

Third—Supply of farm products in line with adequate domestic consumption and foreign demand.

Fourth—Foreign policies that do all that can be done in conformity with peaceful relations to expand foreign markets for American farm products.

Fifth—Conservation of natural resources, especially our precious heritage of the soil.

Sixth—Retirement of submarginal land from cultivation and its use for purposes for which it is best suited.

Seventh—Crop insurance.

Eighth—Storage of reserve supplies of food and fiber.

Ninth—Increased security of tenure for both tenants and owner operators, and better possibilities for tenants to become owners.

Tenth—Increased opportunity for those farm people whose standard of living is now barely on a subsistence basis.

Eleventh—Industrial policies that encourage abundance for wage and salary workers and farmers."

The experience of the past four years under the Agricultural Adjustment Act, under the Soil Conservation Act and now in seeking to work out a broad policy of farm relief based upon "equality for agriculture", constantly brings us to the realization that the Federal policy towards farm products in a general sense is based upon crops which have an exportable surplus. So that when the attempts have been made to have the sugar program conform to the general plan, the results have not been satisfactory because basically those crops which have an exportable surplus apparently need to be restricted, while a non-surplus crop like sugar should have its production increased. Therefore, we should strive to have the Federal Government recognize the necessity for treating sugar and flax and other non-surplus crops

on a basis which is separate and distinct from the other crops. Of course, we always run into the obstructions and obstacles of international obligations and insular policy.

## A Survey of the Louisiana Sugar Industry

One of the most remarkable and valuable official Reports we have ever seen is to be found in Louisiana Bulletin No. 280, entitled "Some Characteristics of Cultivatable Land in the Sugarcane Area of Louisiana" by R. J. Saville and A. L. Dugas. The prime motive for this intensive survey of the conditions prevailing in the Louisiana sugar district appears to have been a desire to ascertain the extent and suitability of this area for resettlement, and the necessary funds for making the investigations were supplied by the Emergency Relief Administration of Louisiana, the Works Progress Administration and the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. So all-inclusive is the data presented that the money expended must have been considerable. The Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station furnished the supervisory personnel.

So many interesting facts are brought out in Louisiana Bulletin No. 280 that any attempt to review them must inevitably overlook a large number of them. They include a long category of things most of us have always wanted to know and at which we have made all sorts of haphazard guesses. For example, we can find out from this report how much idle cultivatable land there is in the Louisiana sugar district and what percentage of this idle land is on the properties of small holders and what percentage of it is on the properties of large land owners. The investigation in this regard covered tracts (a tract being defined as the land operated or managed as a unit or owned as a unit) ranging in size from one acre to 49,240 acres. It appears that the small tracts, those of about 100 acres or less, have 18% of the cultivatable land, while the large plantations, those with 1000 acres or more in the tract have 44% of the cultivatable land. A table is given showing the idle cultivatable land, in acres, and the non-idle cultivatable land, in acres, in the Parishes of Ascension, Assumption, Iberia, Iberville, Lafourche, St. Charles, St. James, St. John, St. Martin, St. Mary, Terrebonne, Vermilion and West Baton Rouge. The period, or periods, during which the idle land became idle, after having previously been cultivated, are also shown, and the period from 1925 to 1929 leads all the other periods in this unfortunate respect, which reflects the mosaic disease and its practical destruction of the Louisiana cane crop. Of the total present idle acreage 40.1 per cent passed out of cultivation during that distressing period. An analysis is given of the contributions made to the idle acreage by the small tracts as compared to the large tracts, and at what years and periods. The statement is made that in recovery of production the small tracts have not gone into sugarcane to the extent that the larger tracts have, many of their owners producing truck crops or not caring to return to sugarcane production.

Louisiana Bulletin No. 280 also takes up and gives a large amount of data on the sugarcane yield per acre and shows that the large tracts, as a whole, have obtained a better average yield than the small tracts.

A most interesting section of the Report is devoted to an attempt to fix the acreage in the Louisiana sugar district that might go into sugarcane if conditions permitted, or if circumstances were such as to make it desirable to do so. This matter is discussed under the heading of "Desired Sugarcane Acreage". It appears that there might be virtually a doubling of the acreage under favorable and attractive conditions. This part of the Report, however, qualifies its figures cautiously and points out the many factors that must be considered. Nevertheless it gives a sort of cross-tabulation which indicates some remarkable expansion possibilities in certain Parishes. St. Charles Parish, for instance, indicates a desired expansion in cane acreage of 607 per cent, Ascension Parish 212 per cent and St. James Parish 152 per cent.

The Report goes on to discuss and give statistical data on work stock efficiency, man labor efficiency, acres per worker, number of regular and extra workers employed, (a matter about which various controversial figures have been promulgated from time to time), how many workers would be needed were the desired increases in cane acreage carried out, the equipment existing and the new equipment needed, housing resources, milling facilities and capacities and data as to increased factory equipment now needed and prospectively needed. Transportation facilities are also analyzed, with costs.

In this brief reference to a big accomplishment we are seeking merely to whet the appetite of our readers for the full report. Copies of it can be had

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from Dr. C. T. Dowell, Director of the Louisiana Experiment Stations, Baton Rouge, La.

A summary of the Report, written by the authors themselves, reads as follows:

"This study has emphasized certain characteristics of present and prospective land use in the 'Sugar Bowl'. It presents a description in greater detail than has been done heretofore, of certain controversial issues that have aroused a keen public and private interest in recent years. Comparatively few issues have been considered, but these have been dealt with comprehensively. Since the omission of any appreciable detail would detract greatly from the analytical picture because of the highly integrated nature of the characteristics considered, it seems unwise to attempt any elaborate summary. However, a few brief statements may help to crystallize the procedure, issues and findings.

"The idle cultivatable land in the sugarcane area has been caused by adverse economic and physical conditions of which mosaic disease, cane borer, the flood of 1927, and the financial collapse after 1929 are most important. Mosaic disease and cane borer caused serious damage through reductions in yield per acre. The flood reduced acreage drastically.

"Since 1927 acreage and yield per acre have recovered remarkably in the face of adverse economic conditions. Much of this new development has been due to the introduction of improved varieties of sugarcane, to control measures for infestations, and to drainage and flood control. Unfavorable economic conditions have been greatly overcome by these technical changes.

"The approach used in this study has been that of a comprehensive description of the existing cultivatable land area, its present use if in cultivation and its previous use if idle, and a possible alternative use of the idle land. The alternative use of a large area of idle land may be considered as a direct means of livelihood for a large number of people, some of whom may come from the present unemployed, and indirectly as an aid to other areas for those people who find an outlet for their resources through trade with the sugarcane area.

"The data obtained in this study are highly comparable with those obtained by a number of other agencies. They have overcome many shortcomings of other data and have added a considerable amount of new information about the sugarcane area.

"The data have been interpreted largely through the use of averages and percentages. Comparisons have been made between three land-use classes: tracts with no idle land, tracts with all of the cultivatable land idle, and tracts with part of the cultivatable land idle. Each land-use class is divided further into size groups. In one group are all tracts for which sample schedules were obtained. The regular schedules were divided according to acres in the tract into three groups as follows: 1-99, 100-999, 1,000 and over.

"The idle cultivatable land is largely in tracts of land that are 100 acres or over in size; in fact, more than half of it is in tracts of 1,000 acres or over. Operators of small tracts have maintained or already returned their lands to use to a greater degree than have operators of large tracts.

"The present sugarcane acreage is divided about equally between tracts with no idle land and those with part of the cultivatable land idle. Only about 75 per cent of the tracts in each land-use class reported growing sugarcane. The larger the tracts the higher is the proportion growing sugarcane. Tracts in which a part of the cultivatable land is idle reported 30 to 50 per cent lower acreage of sugarcane per tract than did tracts with no idle land, indicating clearly the tendency of the return to production.

"Small tracts have a relatively high proportion of plant cane, indicating a pronounced shift towards improved varieties, or an attempt to maintain yield by replacing stubble, or an expansion of the sugarcane acreage. Many tracts have returned their cultivatable land to use through a fairly rapid return to sugarcane. The present proportion of plant cane on such tracts is relatively high.

"The yield per acre on small tracts is comparatively low for both actual and estimated normal. This, no doubt, accounts for the comparatively low proportion of land in cane and the complete absence of sugarcane on many tracts. Large tracts have a high actual and estimated normal yield per acre.

"The desired sugarcane acreage for all tracts was an increase of 95.9 per cent over the present acreage. Seventy per cent of this increase was indicated for tracts with part of the cultivatable land idle, 16 per cent was on tracts with no idle land, and 14 per cent on tracts with all of the land idle. The largest relative increase in desired acreage over present acreage was for tracts of small or medium size.

"Four tests of the reliability of the desired sugarcane acreage estimates were made. These consisted of (1) proportion of cultivatable land in sugarcane; (2) acres of cultivatable land per tract; (3) work stock efficiency; (4) man labor efficiency.

"The effect of an increase in sugarcane to the desired level was estimated to require an additional 13,459 regular workers. This increase would involve, at the current ratio of people to workers, about 44,000 people. In addition to the regular workers there would be extra seasonal workers for hoeing and harvesting. Estimates placed the extra workers needed for the hoeing season at an increase of 125 per cent, and for the harvesting season at 91 per cent. Most of these workers would come from nearby towns, part of whom are now on relief, from adjoining rural areas and from other type-of-farming sections. This constitutes a very direct effect upon the annual income normally obtained by these workers.

"Indirectly any recovery in the sugarcane area will be reflected partly in other areas. The examination of capital resources indicated a serious shortage of work stock, equipment, and houses for present needs. If the desired acreage were attempted a considerable expansion would be made in these capital goods. Since they are largely the products of other areas it would have a far-reaching influence."

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THE
# SUGAR BULLETIN

Entered as second-class matter April 13, 1925, at the post office at New Orleans, La., under Act of March 6, 1879.

*We stand for the encouragement of Home Industries as against foreign competition.*

**Vol. 15** **NEW ORLEANS, LA., JANUARY 1, 1937** **No. 7**

## Senator Overton On Sugar

On December 17th U. S. Senator John H. Overton delivered an address to a State-wide meeting of farmers at Alexandria, La. In this address Senator Overton discussed the farming problems here in this State, especially as they relate to present and prospective Federal legislation.

After taking up such subjects as tick-eradication (now happily accomplished), rural electrification, seed loans, and measures that should be taken in behalf of the rice growers, Senator Overton launched into a discussion of the problems of the Louisiana sugar industry and devoted the principal part of his speech to them. He said:

"But, my friends, the most important and pressing legislation affecting a crop in which Louisiana is peculiarly and vitally interested is the legislation that will be enacted at the next session of Congress dealing with the sugar problem. The Jones-Costigan Act expires on December the thirty-first of next year. Congress will be called upon to consider anew our national policy affecting sugar production in the continental United States.

"For over one hundred and fifty years sugarcane has been cultivated in the State of Louisiana. The lands that are devoted to its production cannot, for the most part, be planted advantageously to any other crop. When President Wilson was, at one time, considering placing sugar upon the 'free list', he sent experts from the Department of Agriculture to show the people in the sugar bowl of Louisiana how their lands could be successfully planted to other crops. After several months of investigation these experts reported that most of the lands could not be planted profitably to any other crop.

"We must do all that we can in our power to protect this vital agricultural industry of Louisiana and to place it, legislatively, as far as practicable, upon a permanent profit-producing basis. The annual yield of our sugar farms and plantations in Louisiana, including sugar, syrup, molasses and other by-products, is approximately thirty million dollars. It is an industry which reclaimed practically all of South Louisiana from the wilderness, built its schools and court houses, organized its banks, dotted its area with thriving towns and cities and is the rock upon which its splendid civilization rests. It is an industry worth fighting for to the last ditch by Louisiana's Senators and Representatives in the halls of our national Congress.

"The quota system inaugurated under the Roosevelt Administration has proved itself to be the most satisfactory method of dealing with our continental sugar problem. I advocate the continuance of the quota system with this modification: I believe in a restrictive quota being imposed on the importation and induction of sugar into the continental United States from and out of all off-shore sugar producing areas and in the unrestricted production of sugar in the continental domain of the United States. In view of the rapid expansion of sugar production in off-shore areas and particularly in our insular possessions and territories, a restriction on importations and induction of sugar from these areas is absolutely essential to protect the American sugar market against the glutting of that market by the dumping of sugar from these areas into the United States at ruinous prices. The American farmer is entitled to protection against the cheap labor and production of tropical off-shore areas.

"Why should any restriction be placed upon the continental production of sugar?

"The basis of the quota system is the continental consumption of sugar in the United States. It is the continental market that, under the quota system, is to be supplied from continental production and off-shore areas. The American farmer is entitled to a preferential right to the American market. 'The American market for the American farmer' is a sound economic policy. When, therefore, under the quota system, we undertake to supply only the domestic sugar market and base quota allotments solely upon domestic consumption requirements, there is neither reason nor justice in placing a restriction upon the production of the continental growers of sugar.

"Furthermore, the Federal government, through legislation and the Department of Agriculture, is pur-

THE
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Reginald Dykers, Editor

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suing the policy of curtailing production in our export crops. Sugar is an import crop. We produce continentally today only a slight percentage over and above one-fourth of our continental consumption requirements. When, therefore, our farm lands are being divorced in part from the production of such export crops as cotton and wheat, there is no reason why such lands as are suitable for the purpose should not be planted to sugar beets or to sugarcane, under, of course, proper safeguards and regulations of soil conservation.

"It has been argued that a restrictive quota should be applied to the continental production of sugar in order that, with correspondingly increased importations from off-shore areas, and particularly from Cuba, better foreign markets may be created for American producers. But it is my belief that the best market for American products is to be found in the American farmer. He, unlike the foreign producer, spends practically all that he makes in America. It is here that he buys his farm implements, radios, trucks, automobiles, clothes and all the necessities of life, and he pays his taxes for the support of our local, State and Federal governments. I am opposed to the sacrifice of the American farmer upon the altar of foreign trade and commerce.

"If we shall fail in the enactment of legislation that will permit the unrestricted production of sugar in the continental United States, I shall then advocate, as an alternative, one single, general quota for production in the United States; and a quota sufficient to take care, as far as possible, of present and potential production. There is no difference chemically or in food value or in taste or appearance or otherwise between beet sugar and cane sugar. There is no reason why there should be a separate quota for cane production and a separate quota for beet production. All continental producers should stand upon the same basis and, in that event, they would have a common cause and a common interest. If we have a common quota, each area will be able rightfully to take advantage of a deficiency in production in any other domestic area. We are, under the present quota system, faced with this anomaly: that, while a deficiency in production in a beet producing State or States enures to the benefit of other beet producing States, yet a deficiency in the entire continental beet production enures to the benefit not merely of continental cane producers but of all sugar-producing areas, domestic and foreign.

"If the policy of a single continental quota is not adopted, I shall strenuously advocate an increase in the quota for Louisiana. In the base period of 1909-1914 production of sugar in Louisiana averaged 335,000 tons. Its production in 1935 was 333,000 tons. In the current year of 1936, it bids fair to exceed 350,000 tons. And yet, under the present law, we are given the ridiculous quota of 220,200 tons. It is upon this inadequate quota that benefit payments, under the Agricultural Adjustment Act, were made and upon which benefit payments are being made under the Soil Conservation Act. It is by reason of this absurdly low quota that the sugar farmers of Louisiana have been so severely penalized. And its farmers have suffered severe penalties not by reason of violations of their contractual obligations to the Department of Agriculture, but because better varieties of cane and favorable weather conditions increased their production. We are, therefore, confronted with another anomaly under the quota system. We have one agency of the Department of Agriculture properly encouraging, in co-operation with local agencies, an increased production of sugarcane through the introduction of new varieties of cane while another branch of the Department of Agriculture is improperly imposing a wholly inadequate quota and penalizing us because its own new varieties are causing us to exceed our quota.

"The views that I have expressed to you today are subject to modification as the views or interests of constituents or sound policy may hereafter dictate. I am only one of ninety-six Senators and only one of five hundred and thirty-one members of the National Congress. But, within the limitations of my capacity, I shall continue to do what I can to further the interests of Louisiana and of Louisiana's farmers. And permit me, in conclusion, to say that, as I majored last year in the very important legislation of flood control, I shall undertake this coming session to devote my activities largely to the formulation of legislation with respect to our sugar industry, for the reason that the whole question will be thrown anew into the lap of Congress during 1937 and it is, therefore, perhaps in a more perilous situation than any other of our agricultural products, and because it is a problem of so vital and special concern to the State of Louisiana."

# Domestic Sugar Industry Endorsed

The National Association of Commissioners of Agriculture held their twentieth annual meeting at Nashville, Tenn., on November 24th, 1936.

At this meeting Hon. Harry D. Wilson, Commissioner of Agriculture for the State of Louisiana, offered the following preamble and resolutions, which were adopted without a dissenting vote by the assembly, composed of Commissioners and Secretaries of Agriculture from more than thirty of the States in the Union:

"Whereas, it is the established policy of the United States to protect home industries and

"Whereas under existing conditions it is peculiarly advisable to produce more of the articles we import and less of those we export and

"Whereas this country produces only about one-fourth of the sugar it consumes annually and could easily supply the entire quantity required to the great benefit of all our industries and to the welfare and protection of our nation, therefore we earnestly recommend and urge,

First, that Americans demand and buy beet and cane sugar grown in the United States and its territories.

Second, that the cane and beet growers, together with the cane and beet processors of the United States and its territories take immediate steps to make the people of the United States and its territories sugar conscious.

Third, that every practical effort be made by the federal government to encourage, stimulate and increase the production of beet and cane sugar in the United States and its territories."

The presentation and adoption of these resolutions followed the delivery of a stirring address by Dr. J. A. Brock, Editor of the Sugar Beet Journal of Saginaw, Michigan, on "The Economic Importance of our Continental Sugar Industry."

At the annual convention of the Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation held at Baton Rouge, La., on November 9th and 10th, 1936, the following resolution was adopted:

WHEREAS: It is evident that there is no overproduction of sugar in Continental United States, and

WHEREAS: There are certain lands in the state of Louisiana that are only adapted for the production of sugar cane, and

WHEREAS: An enormous amount of money is now invested in the sugar industry besides studies over a long period of years being conducted by the United States Department of Agriculture and the Louisiana State University to increase and improve the raising of proper seed, control of disease and insects and the proper cultivation of of sugar cane, now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED: That this organization do petition and implore the Secretary of Agriculture to do everything in his power to promote the sugar cane industry and permit the unrestricted raising of sugar cane to meet the United States needs in the Continental United States.

# Sugar Planter

We have the uncomfortable feeling that a loss hangs over us.

Things may be lost that are not tangible. Remembrances, for instance; emotions; words. The two words at the head of this article are what we are disturbed about.

Etienne de Bore' was a sugar planter; so were Valcour Aime, John Burnside, Duncan F. Kenner, William Porcher Miles, H. C. Minor, John Dymond, Judge Emile Rost, Leon Godchaux and a thousand other immortals. If they were sugar planters are not John Caffery, William Supple, Robert E. LeBlanc, Harry Pitcher, Edward J. Gay and all their contemporaries and prototypes sugar planters too? We ask, restraining our indignation by an effort, who fished up, from some obnoxious sink of lexicography, such a word as "processor" and branded it on them, under the law?

Does "processor" bring to the mind tall flags of sugarcane swaying in the autumn haze? Does it echo the soft, moaning death-song of the cane as it climbs the carrier? Do you hear in it the splattering juice from the mills, or does it fling into the nostrils, across the acres and the arpents, the delectable and incomparable aroma of the sugar house? We all know it does not.

And "cane grower" is no better.

We are all sugar planters. But unless we rise up and beat our breasts and declare for the honorable nomenclature of the fathers it will pass, like them, into the eternal mist.

# Why Was this Ruling Made?

The Agricultural Adjustment Administration has exempted from the provisions of the syrup quota regulations such syrups and "sugar mixtures" as may be imported into the United States from abroad for human consumption in containers of not more than one gallon each.

How much prospective dynamite there is in this unobtrusive announcement it is hard to say. The A.A.A. makes it a point to declare, in connection with the ruling, that all such syrup products imported in containers of not over one gallon each come from Great Britain and, during recent years, have averaged approximately 16,400 gallons per year, a negligible quantity. All this may be quite true, but there is no assurance that Great Britain will continue to be the only source, or that the imports from there will continue to average only an insignificant sixteen thousand gallons annually. What has happened is that the Agricultural Adjustment Administration has notified all countries capable of producing such commodities that they may ship into the United States, regardless of quotas, as much syrup or "sugar mixture" as they choose, provided it is in containers of no greater capacity than one gallon each. The Cuban syrup quota for 1936 was exhausted Sept. 4th. The Dominican Republic syrup quota of 830,894 gallons is now virtually exhausted. They may now keep on shipping syrup into the United States if they put it up in containers of one gallon, or less, capacity. So may all other countries.

There does not appear, on the surface, any adequate reason for this ruling. It seems unlikely that

a business involving only 16,400 gallons of material a year would be of sufficient weight to be instrumental in getting a special ruling to take care of it.

Businesses have been known to incubate, grow, and establish far flung roots when properly fed and nourished by manipulated circumstances.

# Pay Roll Taxes

*(By C. J. Bourg)*

The following letter has been received from the Bureau of Internal Revenue with regard to payroll taxes:

"Further reference is made to your letter of August 21, 1936, relative to the application of the taxing provisions of Title IX of the Social Security Act to the sugarcane industry, with special reference to Bureau letter addressed to you under date of August 3, 1936.

You state that the sugar factories on the Louisiana sugarcane plantations operate approximately sixty days each year, during the harvesting or grinding season and that, in view of this restricted seasonal operation and the twenty weeks requirement in the law, it would seem that the sugar factories which actually operate less than twenty weeks in each calendar year would be exempt from the provisions of the Social Security Act with respect to the tax.

Title IX of the Social Security Act imposes a tax on employers of eight or more and provides in section 907 that the term "employer" does not include any person unless on each of some twenty days during the taxable year, each day being in a different calendar week, the total number of individuals who were in his employ for some portion of the day, whether or not at the same moment of time, was eight or more.

It appears from the foregoing provision of the law, therefore, and from the statements in your letter, that the sugarcane factories referred to would not come within the taxing provisions of Title IX of the Social Security Act.

Title VIII of the Social Security Act, however, which becomes effective after December 31, 1936, entitled 'Taxes With Respect to Employment' imposes a tax upon both employees and employers with no restriction as to the period of employment.

Of course, the letter of the law imposes a tax on employers who have eight or more employees during 20 weeks of the year. There is nothing said about the operation of the plant, but there must be employment whether it be in the actual operation of the plant or making repairs or reconditioning, provided this work is done by direct employment and not by contract. Therefore, each employer must determine for himself from the facts and his books whether he comes within the requirements of the law. Your attention is directed to the previous letter received from the Bureau of Internal Revenue (published in the *Sugar Bulletin* of Aug. 15th, 1936) which recognized that employees engaged in agriculture, exclusive of processing, do not come within the purview of the Act."

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# News From Washington

*(By C. J. Bourg)*

The general attitude in Congressional circles towards the problems of the Louisiana sugar industry is becoming more understandable and inclines strongly to a willingness to support provisions in any new sugar legislation whereby the rights and the merits of the continental sugarcane grower will be accorded full consideration and satisfaction.

The record of performance in production for the past three years is the clear-cut fact which is proving the most effective argument in winning support for our cause. The production figures are

| | |
|---|---|
| 1934 | 234,000 tons |
| 1935 | 333,000 tons |
| 1936 (preliminary estimate) | 350,000 tons |

These figures carry conviction to anyone who considers the obligations of the Federal Government to its citizens who make up the Louisiana sugar industry, for they make it very evident that the national policy towards Louisiana cannot be temporized with indefinitely. Let us together meditate awhile upon the fact that Louisiana has averaged over 300,000 tons annually during the past three years under the acreage limitation and the crop restriction of the Agricultural Adjustment Act. The fact is that the 1936 crop was entirely planted prior to the decision of the United States Supreme Court which invalidated the production adjustment contracts, so that the limitations and the restrictions had already been applied to curtail our crop, even though the benefit payments which were the inducement for compliance are not available to the grower on his 1936 crop.

In addition to the reductions under the AAA, it is necessary to a complete statement to be reminded of the controlling fact that the Louisiana production of sugar has been well below normal since the mosaic disease period, but through the scientific contributions of the U. S. Department of Agriculture new varieties of sugarcane have served to gradually rehabilitate this industry, which was only kept alive by a heroic persistence and perseverence which is an epic in the annals of American agriculture.

It must also be stated that the inauguration of the sugar quota system, through the enactment of the Jones-Costigan Act, came at a time when there was a surplus of sugar available to the United States market, as a result of over-expansion in the Insular Areas. The adjustments sought to be made by Congress through the Jones-Costigan Act were based upon an estimated consumption of 6,452,000 short tons of sugar, raw value. Although we protested the quota of 260,000 tons for Louisiana and Florida, and the developments have justified amply our contentions, the fact remains that Congress accepted the recommendations on this score made by the President and the officials of the Department of Agriculture. Having recorded our protest and still persisting in it, we nevertheless have cooperated wherever possible to help the Administration make a success of the sugar program. We accord full recognition and appreciation to the Administration for removing the depressing surplus of sugar hanging over the United States market in 1934, and for

restoring to a very considerable extent, if not fully up to this time, the price of sugar in keeping with its value and the price of other agricultural commodities. In these two respects the benefits of the Jones-Costigan Act are being enjoyed by the sugarcane growers of Louisiana.

But we come now to the time when an extension of the Act or the enactment of a substitute therefor has become necessary. And to a very great degree the situation is very much changed from what it was in 1934, chiefly because of the experience under the Act which gives certainty and definiteness upon which to determine policy. For instance, consumption requirements of the United States have been increased over 200,000 tons, and the production of Louisiana and Florida for this crop season is passing the 400,000 tons mark considerably.

In a general sense, we also find that there is increasing support for the nationalistic viewpoint of preferential treatment for the American farmer, even among those who are inclined to a broad view of international questions involved with foreign commerce relations. At the recent meeting of the American Farm Bureau Federation, on the occasion of its national conference, they adopted a series of resolutions regarding national farm policy, and it is appropriate here to quote briefly therefrom.

> "Such national farm policy must provide * * * a schedule of agricultural tariffs to fully protect the domestic market from competing imports that hold or force American prices below parity levels; * * * aggressive efforts to develop new domestic and foreign outlets and markets for American-grown farm products with the continued use of a substantial amount of import revenue; * * * "
>
> "Recognizing both the opportunities and limitations of these factors, to be effective this farm policy must have adequate provision to insure such a balance of supply of farm products with demand as is necessary to assure farmers of parity prices for their products." "Domestic and Foreign Quotas: During such periods of time as curtailed market outlets force American Farmers to restrict the production of farm products more than is necessary to be consistent with good farm practices, including the maintenance of a high degree of soil fertility, we urge that federal laws and regulations restrict the importation from foreign countries of farm products to such point as is necessary to maintain the widest possible market for domestic farm products at fair price levels."

The convention of the National Grange followed in principle the time-old policies of tariff protection to agriculture and development of the American market for the farmers of this country, and in addition they mentioned sugar specifically in a resolution reading.

> "Resolved that we advocate the encouragement and expansion of production in the United States of non-surplus crops, such as flax and sugar. We approve of the sugar quota system, subjecting imports from foreign countries to definite restrictions, in addition to reasonable tariff duties."

These two greater national farm organizations, with units in every State of the Union, and representing the recognized unity of farmer-thought in the United States, appear to be in complete accord with the policies of the American Sugar Cane League. Other great organizations of farmers in the country have announced their adherence to the principle of preserving the domestic market to the American farmer to the extent of his ability to supply it. Nowhere have we seen a resolution which is qualified in its application, either to the exclusion of sugar, or sugarcane, or of Louisiana. Hence we refer to this apparent unanimity of thought and purpose, which we support wholeheartedly and whose benefits we seek to enjoy with the other farmers who grow other products in other States.

### Reorganization of Bureaus

The President of the United States has appointed a Commission to make recommendations upon the re-organization of Government Departments and Bureaus, in order that conflicts and duplications may be avoided. It is pertinent in this connection to discuss briefly the social and economic Federal policies as they are or may be applied to South Louisiana. We have our problems of relief, re-employment and rehabilitation, just as other sections of the country. Yet the fact of this section having for more than a century the sugarcane industry as its major commercial asset, gives to South Louisiana a solution which is readily available and thoroughly satisfactory to its citizens. Consistently with the thought of the organized farmers of the Nation, the Federal Government can co-ordinate its efforts with a minimum of expense and a maximum of results by simply permitting Louisiana to restore its sugarcane acreage to cultivation and to rehabilitate its factories for the most efficient operation. Immediately we visualize the removal of any necessity for relief rolls, through the re-employment of all employables either in the sugar industry itself or indirectly in the other channels of commerce which always become fully opened when the sugarcane grower is prosperous with large crops and a reasonable price. We see the direct interest of the Farm Credit Administration and the Reconstruction Finance Corporation in any project which will turn abandoned farm land into active assets, and in this connection the Resettlement Administration has already entered the field of restoring good farms to profitable operation through the planting of sugarcane. The Farm Credit Administration has financed the rehabilitation or reconstruction of five cooperative factories. The need for WPA projects to furnish employment, or even the CCC camps as a haven for unemployed young men, can be made to disappear as among the problems of this section. Nowhere else in the United States can so many admitted obligations of the Federal Government be fulfilled so completely and with such general benefits, as in the Sugar Belt of Louisiana. Sugar being a non-surplus crop, the objections which normally lie against encouraging increased farm operations do not apply. Even the sugar quota system will not be disturbed in its fundamentals, because the increased production which Louisiana can furnish will never be sufficient to keep pace with the increased consumption. In a practical sense, we have seen in 1936 three distinct re-allocations of quota from the United States Beet Sugar Area, from the Territory of Hawaii and from the Philippine Islands, and the ability of Louisiana to share in making up these deficits was possible only because in 1935 and 1936 we produced 150% to 160% of the initial quota or production allotment. To that extent Louisiana has served to protect the consumer against being forced

to look entirely to foreign countries for a full supply of this essential food. We cannot hope to be favored every year with re-allocations to take care of our production temporarily, and contrarily we should not be deprived of the opportunity to deliver against such deficits. There appears to be every argument in fact and in logic to vindicate the repeated demands of Louisiana for an adequate quota, not only for the direct benefit of the sugarcane grower but for the recovery economically and socially of the citizenship and communities of South Louisiana. We submit that this solution of the problems of Federal policy in Louisiana is pertinent to the proposed re-organization and co-ordination of governmental agencies on a national scale. It is so obvious that it cannot be overlooked.

## AAA Announces 1937 Sugar and Sirup Quotas

(Official Release)

The Agricultural Adjustment Administration announced Dec. 12th, 1936, the sugar and sirup quotas for 1937 established in accordance with the provisions of Public Resolution No. 109, approved by the President June 19, 1936, and the Jones-Costigan Act. The quotas are contained in General Sugar Quota Regulations, Series 4, No. 1, and General Sirup Quota Regulations, Series 2, No. 1, signed by Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace Dec. 12th.

The initial sugar quotas for 1937 total 6,682,670 short tons, raw value. This is approximately the amount of sugar made available for 1936 (6,,812,687 short tons, raw value) after taking into account the entries of sugar under bond during December, 1935, which totalled approximately 127,000 tons and which were charged against the 1936 quotas. The initial quotas for 1937 represent an increase of 248,582 tons over the initial 1936 quotas.

The initial sugar quotas for 1937 for the various sugar producting areas compares with 1936 as follows:

| | Initial Quota Short tons, raw value 1937 | 1936 |
|---|---|---|
| Continental United States Beet Sugar Producing Area | 1,613,576 | 1,550,000 |
| The States of Louisiana and Florida | 270,664 | 260,000 |
| Territory of Hawaii | 976,685 | 941,199 |
| Puerto Rico | 831,508 | 801,297 |
| Philippines | 1,035,742 | 998,110 |
| Virgin Islands | 5,462 | 5,264 |
| Cuba | 1,922,423 | 1,852,575 |
| Foreign Countries Other Than Cuba | 26,610 | 25,643 |
| Total | 6,682,670 | 6,434,088 |

The sirup quotas are as follows:

| Area | In terms of wine gallons of 72% total sugar content |
|---|---|
| Cuba | 7,970,558 |
| Dominican Republic | 830,894 |
| Other foreign countries | 0 |

## Hawaiian and Virgin Islands Sugar Quota Deficit Is Re-Allotted

The Agricultural Adjustment Administration announced Dec. 22nd, 1936, 9 days before the close of the year, a reallotment of 28,712 short tons of sugar, raw value, out of the existing quotas of 1,036,090 short tons and 5,796 short tons for Hawaii and the Virgin Islands, respectively, to other producing areas. It has been found that the sugar producers of these two areas will be unable to deliver this quantity of 28,712 short tons for United States consumption during the calendar year 1936.

Of the total of 28,712 tons, 26,482 tons represent the deficit for the Territory of Hawaii and 2,230 tons represent the deficit for the Virgin Islands. In the case of Hawaii, the sugar has been produced but cannot be delivered on account of the maritime labor disturbances. Re-allotment to other sugar producing areas was made in accordance with the provisions of the Jones-Costigan Act and Public Resolution No. 109, approved June 19, 1936.

The quantities allotted to the other sugar producing areas out of the above mentioned deficiencies, which are in direct proportion to the existing quotas, are as follows:

| Area | Tons |
|---|---|
| States of Louisiana and Florida | 3,278 |
| Puerto Rico | 7,606 |
| Cuba | 17,585 |
| Foreign Countries other than Cuba | 243 |
| Total | 28,712 |

The above allotments are contained in General Sugar Quota Regulations, Series 3, Revision 2, Supplements 3 and 4, signed by the Secretary of Agriculture, on December 22, 1936.

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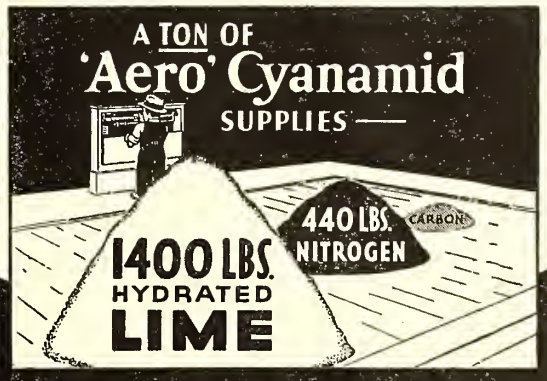


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THE
# SUGAR BULLETIN

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## Social Security Tax

A Committee of the American Sugar Cane League composed of Mr. Charles A. Farwell, Chairman, Mr. J. Wilson Lepine, Mr. Harry Pitcher, Mr. Jules Godchaux, Mr. Dubourg Thibaut, Mr. R. H. Chadwick, Mr. W. F. Giles, Mr. A. W. McNeill and Mr. W. Prescott Foster met by appointment with Mr. B. W. Cason, Commissioner of Labor, Unemployment Compensation Division, of the State of Louisiana, at Mr. Cason's office in Baton Rouge on December 31st, 1936.

Mr. Cason opened the discussion by stating that his division desired to cooperate with the sugar industry in Louisiana, but that the Division had concluded that operations of sugar houses came within the agricultural exemption of the Louisiana Social Security Act when, and only when, the sugar houses processed cane grown on property owned or leased and operated by the owner or owners of the sugar house; that when the sugar house processed cane which it had purchased from others, its operations did not come within the agricultural exemption of the Social Security Act, and all the sugar house employees, including the year-around repair crews, were subject to all the provisions of the Social Security Act. The Commissioner further stated that when a sugar house processed cane raised on the plantation or lands owned by the owner of the sugar house, and in addition, other cane purchased by such owner, the sugar house employees, including the year-around repair crews, would be subject to the Act in the proportion that the purchased cane bore to the total amount of cane processed by the sugar house. That is to say, if of the total amount of cane processed by any sugar house in the calendar year 1936, 60% of the cane raised on the sugar house plantation, and 40% is cane purchased by the sugar house, such sugar house would be liable for a tax equal to 40% of the full tax on the entire sugar house payroll for the year, and the sugar house employees entitled to corresponding benefits. The Commissioner emphasized that this position was temporary, since he believed that, eventually, all sugar house operations should be subject to the Act, and the agricultural exemption should be limited to the time when the cane is delivered to the sugar house. He stated that, for the present, he was taking the position above set out in view of Federal Regulations 90 which apparently take a similar position.

The Commissioner further stated that, in calculating the amount of cane grown by the sugar house, he would allow to be included all cane raised by the owner or owners of the sugar house on such owner's or owners' lands, or on any lands leased and operated by such owner or owners. Mr. Farwell suggested to Mr. Cason that the agricultural exemption should be extended to all sugar house operations, regardless of the source of the cane processed in any sugar house, stating that sugar house operations were for the benefit of all farmers in the community, immediate processing being necessary after the cane is cut. He then cited in this connection the case of *American Sugar Refining Company v. Louisiana,* 179 U. S. 89, pointing out the language of the Court in this case as follows:

"Refined sugar, however, is a natural and ultimate product of the cane, and the various steps to perfect such product are but incident to the original growth."

The Commissioner, however, indicated that his Division felt that it could not extend the agricultural exemption to this extent, and further, that in his opinion, the Division was giving a very liberal interpretation to the Act in extending the exemption as far as above outlined.

The Commissioner also pointed out that since the Federal Government had ruled that processing cane was not exempt when any cane was purchased, (referring the Committee to Regulations 90), unless the Louisiana Division limited its exemption in the same manner, it would not be taking full advantage of its share of the Federal tax. Thus, if the Commissioner should hold that all sugar house operations were exempt, the Federal Government would, nevertheless, collect a tax from the sugar house in respect to cane purchased by the sugar house, and no part of this tax would be remitted to the State of Louisiana, nor would the proceeds of such tax be available to pay Unemployment Compensation in Louisiana.

The League Committee then asked Mr. Cason what the position of his Division would be if it should persuade the Federal Government to extend the exemp-

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Reginald Dykers, Editor

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The American Cane Growers' Assn.
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tion to all sugar house operations, but the Commissioner was unwilling to say what his position would be in such a contingency.

The League Committee then pointed out to the Commissioner that payments during the year 1937 on account of the payroll tax, under the Unemployment Compensation Act, were due and payable monthly, the payments being due within fifteen days after the end of each month. It was also pointed out that there is in each sugar house a year-around sugar house crew, as to which some payments would be due as payroll tax under this Act. It was also pointed out that it would not be known until the end of 1937 what proportion of its own cane and what proportion of purchased cane any sugar house would grind, and that it would therefore be difficult to calculate the monthly payments due in February, March, April, etc., since the proportion could not be determined until the end of December. The Commissioner then suggested that the relative proportions of owned and purchased cane ground in 1936 by any given sugar house be used as the basis for calculating the proportion for the monthly payments during 1937, subject to final correction at the end of the year.

It was brought out that there is no provision under the Unemployment Compensation Act for a refund by the Commissioner of any overpayments made to the Commissioner. The Commissioner pointed out that any sugar house employer desiring to be considered exempted from the provisions of the Unemployment Compensation Act should have filed an application for exemption on or before January 5, 1937. He pointed out, further, that the reports and the payment of the tax for the year 1936 should be filed with him not later than January 15, 1937.

In view of the above position taken by Mr. Cason, it appears to have been necessary for a factory owner to file a claim not later than January 5th, 1937 for exemption if he believes that, during the year 1937, he will grind no purchased cane but solely cane grown on his own plantations, in his own sugar houses. Mr. Cason's position also indicates that it will be desirable to file with him a report and tax return for the calendar year 1937, showing a tax due on the payroll of all sugar house employees, including all the year-around crews, and including all persons employed in the sugar house during the grinding season, such tax to be equal to that proportion of 9/10th of 1% of such payroll as the purchased cane ground in such sugar house during the year 1936 bears to the total cane ground in such sugar house. This return should be filed with the reservation of all rights to claim a total exemption, and the tax should be paid under protest, on the ground that the taxpayer is entitled to a total exemption.

So far as the Federal tax is concerned the ruling is that on or before February 1, 1937, a return should be filed with the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, showing a tax due on the same proportion of the payroll as set out in previous paragraph, such tax to be equal to 1% of such proportion of such payroll, less the 9/10ths of 1% of such proportion of such payroll paid to the State of Louisiana. This return should also be made with full reservation of all rights to claim a total exemption, and the tax should be paid under protest, on the ground that the sugar house operator paying the tax is entitled to a total exemption. However, Mr. Charles Farwell and Mr. R. H. Chadwick of the same Committee that called on Mr. Cason subsequently called by appointment on Mr. R. W. Fontenot, U. S. Collector of Internal Revenue at New Orleans. Mr. Fontenot told Mr. Farwell and Mr. Chadwick that he was willing to receive and forward to Washington with his approval a brief asking that Louisiana raw sugar factories be exempted from the Social Security Tax. He also said that if no reply came from Washington by Jan. 25th, he would give a 30 day extension, to raw sugar factories who applied to him, for the filing of these tax returns, which under the law should be made to the United States Government February 1st. All this has nothing to do with the returns for the State of Louisiana. *All raw sugar factories should inquire of Mr. Fontenot on Jan. 25th whether he has heard from Washington.* The brief prepared by Mr. Farwell's Committee and sent to Mr. Fontenot, reads as follows:

New Orleans, La.,
January 12, 1937.

Mr. Rufus W. Fontenot,
Collector of Internal Revenue,
New Orleans, Louisiana.

Dear Sir:

As the Special Committee of the Louisiana Sugar Cane League on the Social Security Act, we would appreciate your giving us a ruling as to the applicability of Title IX of the Social Security Act, being Public No. 271, 74th Congress, approved August 14, 1935. As you know, by

Section 907 (c) of the Act, agricultural labor is exempted from the provisions of Title IX. By Regulations 90, Article 206 (1), this exemption is given the following interpretation:

"Agricultural labor.—The term 'agricultural labor' includes all services performed—

(a) By an employee, on a farm, in connection with the cultivation of the soil, the harvesting of crops, or the raising, feeding, or management of live stock, bees and poultry; or

(b) By an employee in connection with the processing of articles from materials which were produced on a farm; also the packing, packaging, transportation, or marketing of those materials or articles. Such services do not constitute 'agricultural labor', however, unless they are performed by an employee of the owner or tenant of the farm on which the materials in their raw or natural state were produced, and unless such processing, packing, packaging, transportation, or marketing is carried on as an incident to ordinary farming operations as distinguished from manufacturing or commercial operations.

As used herein the term 'farm' embraces the farm in the ordinarily accepted sense, and includes stock dairy, poultry, fruit, and truck farms, plantations, ranches, ranges, and orchards.

Forestry and lumbering are not included within the exception."

There are in Louisiana between sixty or seventy sugar houses, so-called. These sugar houses are built on plantations, primarily for the purpose of grinding the cane grown on the plantations. As you know, it is essential for any farmer raising sugar cane to be able to grind his cane within twenty-four to forty-eight hours after the cane is cut, because, after being cut, sugar cane very rapidly deteriorates, and because of the weight of the cane itself, it is impracticable to ship it any great distance. Consequently the sugar houses are integral and essential parts of sugar cane growing communities, no matter at which one of the plantations in the community they happen to be located; and their entire operation is incidental to the growing of sugar cane. Most of the cane ground in these sugar houses is made into raw sugar, which is a product not fit for consumption, but which product is normally sent to a refinery which manufactures refined sugar from the "raws" produced by the sugar house. In the case of the great majority of the sugar houses in question, the sugar house, although primarily built for the purpose of grinding the cane raised on the sugar house plantation, also serves the community, including the small sugar planters in the neighborhood, by grinding their cane for them. If the sugar houses did not purchase the cane from the small sugar planters and grind it for them, such small planters would not be able to raise sugar cane, since it is essential that their cane be ground almost immediately after it is cut.

In view of the above facts, we believe it is clear that all the employees in these so-called sugar houses, not including sugar refiners, should be considered agricultural labor within the meaning of Title IX of the Social Security Act, and therefore exempt from the provisions of that Act. We would appreciate your giving us a ruling to this effect, and we believe that you will agree that such a ruling should be given for the following reasons:

(1) The operation of sugar houses is an essential part of the growing of sugar cane, and has always been considered a necessary incident to the raising of sugar cane. Thus, when the NRA codes were in effect, none of these codes, including the blanket code, were held to apply to sugar houses or sugar house employees. In the case of **American Sugar Refining Company v. Louisiana, 179 U. S., p. 89**, the Supreme Court of the United States said:

"Refined sugar, however, is a natural and ultimate product of the cane, and the various steps to perfect such product are but incident to the original growth."

(2) As indicated from the above quotation from Regulations 90, it would appear that sugar houses and sugar house employees were subject to the Social Security Act in the proportion that the amount of purchased cane ground in any one year in the sugar house bears to the total cane ground in such sugar houses, sugar houses and sugar house employees being exempt to the extent of the cane ground in the sugar houses, raised on the sugar house plantation. Such a result, we believe, is unfair, illogical and impracticable for the following reasons:

(a) It will mean that the sugar houses throughout the State will naturally attempt to raise and to grind as much cane raised on the sugar house plantation as possible, purchasing as little cane from the small sugar planters in the neighborhood as possible. This will, in the normal course of events, work an injustice on the small sugar planter who does not own a sugar house, since he will not be able to get his cane ground.

(b) The taxes for the year 1937 are payable monthly, at the end of each month. Thus, in the year 1937, the taxes must be paid in the first part of February for the month of January, in the first part of March for the month of February, etc. It will be impossible, however, to determine with any degree of accuracy, prior to the 31st day of December, 1937, on what proportion of the sugar house payroll this tax should be paid, since there is no possible way of predicting what the proportion of purchased cane will be until the end of the year. Consequently, it will be impossible to determine in advance the amount of the tax which under the law will be due in February, March, April, etc., with reference to the sugar house employees. For this reason, we believe any attempt at apportionment is impracticable.

(c) During the grinding season, a large number of persons are employed in the sugar houses. The class of employees who work in the sugar houses is precisely the same as the class that works in the field during the remainder of the year. It seems illogical to make a distinction between precisely the same type and class of laborer in the same farming community because one set of men works in the fields and the other set works in the sugar houses.

(d) A great many of the men employed on the plantations work part of the time in the fields and part of the time in the sugar houses, varying their work throughout the year. Frequently, such employees spend part of their days at the sugar houses and part in the fields. It would be an almost impossible task to calculate how much of the time of each employee on any sugar plantation was spent in the fields and how much in the sugar house. And yet, an accurate record of this would be necessary if sugar house employees were not considered agricultural labor but subject to the Act on the proportion of cane ground by the sugar house but purchased from neighboring sugar planters. Certainly, no such record is kept by the sugar houses now, the men being dispatched to the place where labor is needed at the moment, whether it be in the sugar house or in the fields. To require sugar houses to keep a record of where each employee works every day would be a great burden on the sugar farmers.

(3) The operation of sugar houses which grind the cane of neighboring sugar planters is an operation which is genuinely for the benefit of all the small sugar planters in the neighborhood of the sugar house. The cane purchase contract now in use in Louisiana is essentially the one which was approved and used under the AAA. It provides that the price of cane shall be based on the prevailing price of sugar during the period the sugar is normally marketed by the sugar house, and also upon the sucrose, (or sugar content), of the cane itself. This is the main reason why it is essential to grind the farmer's cane as soon as it is harvested, in order for him not to suffer a price loss due to deterioration of his cane. In most instances, these cane contracts provide that the price paid by the sugar house to the planter shall be based on the average price of sugar during the months of October, November, December, January and February in any one season. Thus, the sugar house is merely performing the service to the small sugar planter of grinding his cane into raw sugar so that it can be stored, and of marketing his sugar for him, giving him the benefit of the prevailing price during the entire marketing season.

For the above and foregoing reasons, we believe you will agree that the Collector of Internal Revenue should rule that, in the case of sugar houses in Louisiana built primarily for the purpose of grinding sugar cane raised on the sugar house plantation, and of producing raw sugar to be sent to refineries for refining, all the employees of

such sugar houses should be considered agricultural labor, and therefore, excepted from the provisions of Title IX of the Social Security Act, whether such sugar house grind entirely cane grown on the sugar house plantation, or whether part of the sugar cane ground by such sugar houses is sugar cane purchased from sugar planters in the neighborhood.

We would appreciate your expression in regard to this matter at your earliest convenience, since, as you know, the tax for the year 1936 is due and payable on or before January 31, 1937.

Respectfully yours,
SPECIAL COMMITTEE, AMERICAN SUGAR CANE LEAGUE
By CHAS. FARWELL,
Chairman.

# Fertilization of Plant Cane On Some of the More Important Soils of the Sugarcane District of Louisiana

*By A. M. O'Neal, Associate Soil Technologist and L. A. Hurst, Biochemist, Division of Soil Fertility Investigations, Bureau of Plant Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture.*

(PART I)

Sugarcane is being grown in Louisiana on a number of different types of soil which vary in their physical and chemical composition, many of them having been more or less in continuous cultivation for 50 to 100 years. During this time cultural practices, crop rotations and fertilizer treatments have varied depending upon the plantation practice of those responsible for the handling of the land. When substantial profits were made on the sugar crop large sums of money were spent for the maintenance of soil fertility whereas when profits were reduced, as occurred in the depression years, the planters frequently attempted to recoup by cutting down on fertilizer, even though they realized that the storehouse of plant food in their soils was not inexhaustible and would ultimately have to be replenished. The result is that soils may and do vary on different plantations, even on the same plantation, with differences in their chemical and physical characteristics and fertilizer requirements. The problem, naturally, has many angles, including the fertilizer requirements of plant cane and first and second ratoon or stubble cane on different soil types. This paper is devoted to a consideration of the fertilization of plant cane only.

Realizing that such matters can be more accurately solved by field experiments, where conditions are similar to those under which the planters are operating, the Division of Soil Fertility investigations, Bureau of Plant Industry, has been conducting a series of studies on widely separated plantations to determine the fertilizer requirements of sugarcane grown on some of the more important and extensively developed soils of the "Sugar Bowl" of Louisiana. The results obtained during the past six years show certain trends that may be presented at this time for the consideration and guidance of the sugar planters to better fertilizer practices.

In the following pages are presented results of plant cane fertilizer experiments on Yazoo and Sharkey soils of the Mississippi Alluvium, first bottom soils area, Lintonia silt loam of the Mississippi Alluvium, terrace section, Iberia silt loam of the Coastal Prairie Sediments and Franklin silt loam of the Mississippi-Red River area.*

*A complete report of the individual field experiments, including plant cane, first, second and third ratoon or stubble cane, are now being assembled for publication as a bulletin by the Division of Soil Fertility Investigations, Bureau of Plant Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

## Yazoo Soils

The Yazoo very fine sandy loam and silt loam soils are extensively developed throughout the Mississippi Alluvium, first bottom soils area or that part of the State east of a line drawn from Morgan City north along the Atchafalaya River to Simmsport then down the east side of the Mississippi River to the vicinity of Plaquemine and east to Lake Pontchartrain. The soils are gray, grayish brown to light brown grading abruptly into a compact, heavy textured upper subsoil layer. The subsoil proper consists of a succession of light and heavier textured horizons or layers of a gray, or mottled gray, rust brown and pale yellow color. The soil reaction ranges from pH 6.5 to 7.0 for the surface and pH 7.5 to 8.0 for the subsoil. The soils usually occupy the higher lying front lands bordering water courses though isolated ridges occur back from the streams. While natural drainage is better established than on the associated Sharkey soils it is not adequate for best results and open ditches are necessary. If outlets are maintained and kept open, run-off is rapid and the ground water table can be

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The results of soil fertility experiments on Yazoo very fine sandy loam and silt loam, conducted on seven (7) widely separated plantations, are summarized in Tables 1 to 3. At each location uniform, representative bodies of soil were selected and the history of each field obtained. Except at Southdown where beans were harvested for hay the bean crops were turned under as green manure. The general rotation consisted of from 2 to 3 years of sugarcane including plant cane, first and second stubble, and one year of corn and beans, with the latter turned under for green manure.

Table 1. Plant Cane Results on Yazoo Very Fine Sandy Loam and Silt Loam ("Sandy Land")
Average of three fields

| Mixture Percent N-P-K | Pounds Plant Food Applied per Acre | Tons cane per acre | Pounds sugar per acre | Increase over check | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | Cane per acre | Sugar per acre |
| 20-0-0[1] | 60 lbs. nitrogen alone | 29.14 | 6119 | 3.85 | 571 |
| 16-4-0 | 48 lbs. nitrogen + 12 lbs. phosphoric acid | 29.25 | 6015 | 3.96 | 467 |
| 16-0-4 | 48 lbs. nitrogen + 12 lbs. potash | 29.39 | 6072 | 4.10 | 524 |
| 12-8-0 | 36 lbs. nitrogen + 24 lbs. phosphoric acid | 29.19 | 6173 | 3.90 | 625 |
| 12-4-4 | 36 lbs. nitrogen + 12 lbs. phosphoric acid + 12 lbs. potash | 29.26 | 6010 | 3.97 | 462 |
| 12-0-8 | 36 lbs. nitrogen + 24 lbs. potash | 29.09 | 6102 | 3.80 | 554 |
| 0-0-0 | Check—No fertilizer | 25.29 | 5548 | | |

[1]In all experiments included in this paper mixtures were made up as follows; nitrogen from nitrate of soda; phosphoric acid from superphosphate and potash from muriate of potash.

Replicated plots of 1/60 acre, 4 rows wide, were used in these experiments.

The three fields were located on Upper Ten Plantation, Raceland, La., and Ashland and Southdown Plantations near Houma, La. Except at Southdown, where beans were harvested for hay, the bean crops were turned under as green manure.

Varieties: Ashland Field, C. P. 28-19; Southdown, Co. 281; Upper Ten, P. O. J. 213.

Fertilizers were applied at the rate of 60 pounds of total plant food per acre.

Table 2. Plant Cane Results on Yazoo Very Fine Sandy Loam and Silt Loam ("Sandy Land")
Average of two fields

| Mixture Percent N-P-K | Pounds Plant Food Applied per Acre | Tons cane per acre | Pounds sugar per acre | Increase over check | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | Cane per acre | Sugar per acre |
| 20-0-0 | 60 lbs. nitrogen alone | 36.97 | 7547 | 5.17 | 879 |
| 12-8-0 | 36 lbs. nitrogen + 24 lbs. phosphoric acid | 35.16 | 7169 | 3.36 | 501 |
| 12-4-4 | 36 lbs. nitrogen + 12 lbs. phosphoric acid + 12 lbs. potash | 36.29 | 7663 | 4.49 | 995 |
| 8-8-4 | 24 lbs. nitrogen + 24 lbs. phosphoric acid + 12 lbs. potash | 34.51 | 7361 | 2.71 | 693 |
| 0-0-0 | Check—No fertilizer | 31.80 | 6668 | | |

The results of experiments located on Hollywood Plantation near Houma and Armant Plantation, Vacherie, La., on the Mississippi River, which are widely separated, are averaged above, Table 2.

Fertilizer applied at the rate of 60 pounds of total plant food per acre.

Table 3. Plant Cane Results on Yazoo Very Fine Sandy Loam and Silt Loam ("Sandy Land")
Results from two fields; *Southdown 1932, and †Annex 1933

| Mixture Percent N-P-K | Pounds Plant Food Applied per Acre | Tons cane per acre | Pounds sugar per acre | Increase over check | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | Cane per acre | Sugar per acre |
| 20-0-0 | 80 lbs. nitrogen per acre | *38.51 | 7822 | 5.66 | 536 |
| | | †28.22 | 5763 | 4.44 | 857 |
| 12-8-0 | 48 lbs. nitrogen + 32 lbs. phosphoric acid | *37.87 | 7793 | 5.02 | 507 |
| | | †29.16 | 5873 | 5.38 | 967 |
| 12-4-4 | 48 lbs. nitrogen + 16 lbs. phosphoric acid + 16 lbs. potash | *34.61 | 7284 | 1.76 | −2 |
| | | †28.48 | 5719 | 4.70 | 813 |
| 12-0-8 | 48 lbs. nitrogen + 32 lbs. potash | *34.00 | 6805 | 1.15 | −481 |
| | | †27 26 | 5795 | 3.48 | 889 |
| 0-0-0 | Check—No fertilizer | *32.85 | 7286 | | |
| | | †23.78 | 4906 | | |

Above table shows the results from two fields located on Southdown Plantation* near Houma, and Annex Plantation† near Cinclare, La.

Fertilizers applied at the rate of 80 pounds of total plant food per acre.

A crop of soy beans preceded the planting of both fertilizer experiments. At Cinclare the beans were turned under as green manure, while at Southdown they were cut for hay.

The 16-4-0, 16-0-4,12-8-0, 12-4-4 and 12-0-8 mixtures, Table 1, applied at the rate of 60 pounds of

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total plant food per acre produced 3.96, 4.10, 3.90, 3.97 and 3.80 tons of cane and 467, 524, 625, 462 and 554 pounds more sugar per acre, respectively, than the check whereas 60 pounds of nitrogen, alone, made a gain of 3.85 tons of cane and 571 pounds of sugar per acre. It will be seen that the fertilized plots made significantly higher yields than the unfertilized check. The two fields, where the beans were turned under, as green manure, showed greater response to fertilizers than where the beans were harvested for hay.

The results of the Hollywood Field, near Houma and Armant Field at Vacherie, La., which are averaged in Table 2, show that the 12-4-4 mixtures applied at the 300 pounds per acre made 4.49 tons of cane and 995 pounds more sugar per acre than the check whereas 60 pounds of nitrogen, alone produced 5.17 tons of cane and 879 pounds more sugar. In this connection it is of interest to state that at Hollywood where all treatments were replicated 20 times only the complete mixtures, 12-4-4 and 8-8-4, made gains over the unfertilized check whereas at Vacherie the 60 pound application of nitrogen, alone produced the highest yield which was 137 pounds greater than the 12-4-4 plot on the same field.

On Annex Plantation, Table 3, all the treatments showed significant gains in tonnage and sugar per acre over the unfertilized check. At Southdown, only the nitrogen alone and the 12-8-0 mixture showed gains. At Annex Plantation, where the cover crop of beans was turned under, nitrogen alone and the 12-8-0 mixture showed respective gains of 321 and 460 pounds of sugar per acre over the same treatments on Southdown, where the beans were harvested for hay. Likewise the 12-4-4 and 12-0-8 mixtures at Southdown, produced 815 and 1370 pounds less sugar per acre than the same treatments at Annex. At Southdown the 12-0-8 mixture showed a loss of 481 pounds of sugar per acre when compared with the unfertilized check plots on the same field.

### Sharkey Soils

The Sharkey soils have brown to dark brown surface soils and gray to bluish gray heavy textured subsoils that are highly mottled with gray, rust brown and some yellow. The soils are developed on the lower parts of the Mississippi Alluvium, first bottom lands which usually occur back from the streams and bordering or grading into the swamps. Drainage is poor with the ground water table usually near the surface. The soils are high in colloidal or clay material and readily run together or "melt down" after heavy rains. While these soils are inherently rich in natural plant food they frequently offer a poor environment, both for the germination of the seed stalks and root growth, due to their poor physical character and lack of adequate drainage. In spite of this some of the new and more vigorous varieties of sugarcane, such as Co. 290 and C. P. 807, make excellent yields which have further been greatly increased by the use of proper fertilizers.

The results of the Belle Terre Field, located six miles south of Donaldsonville, La., and the average results of the Mandalay and Ranch Fields, near Houma, Table 4, are striking in that all fertilized plots made wide gains over the unfertilized checks. It is of interest to record in this connection also that at Mandalay, in 1932, the 16-0-4 and 16-4-0 mixtures made the highest yields whereas at Ranch Field, in 1934, 60 pounds of nitrogen, alone, produced more

sugar per acre than any of the mixtures. The average results of these two fields show that the 20-0-0 plots, that received 60 pounds of nitrogen, alone, made a gain of 9.19 tons of cane and 1821 pounds of sugar per acre over the unfertilized check. With the exception of the 20-0-0 plot at Belle Terre, which it seems is somewhat out of line, the trends are much the same as at Mandalay and Ranch Plantations. The 16-4-0 mixture produced 13.52 tons of cane and 2159 pounds more sugar per acre than check whereas the 16-0-4 ranks third with a gain of 10.04 tons of cane and 1542 pounds of sugar. The returns from the fertilized plots are somewhat surprising when it is remembered that legumes were plowed under prior to planting the experiments.

Table 4. Plant Cane on Sharkey Silty Clay and Silty Clay Loam, ("Black Land")

*Average results Mandalay and Ranch Fields; †Belle Terre results.

| Mixture Percent N-P-K | Pounds Plant Food Applied per Acre | Tons cane per acre | Pounds sugar per acre | Increase over check | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | Cane per acre | Sugar per acre |
| 20-0-0 | 60 lbs. nitrogen alone | *31.43 | 5822 | 9.19 | 1821 |
| | | †26.58 | 5534 | 1.30 | 425 |
| 16-4-0 | 48 lbs. nitrogen + 12 lbs. phosphoric acid | *30.21 | 5462 | 7.97 | 1461 |
| | | †38.80 | 7268 | 13.52 | 2159 |
| 16-0-4 | 48 lbs. nitrogen + 12 lbs. potash | *30.62 | 5596 | 8.38 | 1595 |
| | | †35.32 | 6651 | 10.04 | 1542 |
| 12-8-0 | 36 lbs. nitrogen + 24 lbs. phosphoric acid | *28.30 | 5146 | 6.06 | 1145 |
| | | †32.02 | 6026 | 6.74 | 917 |
| 12-4-4 | 36 lbs. nitrogen + 12 lbs. phosphoric acid + 12 lbs. potash | *39.09 | 5430 | 7.85 | 1429 |
| | | †33.80 | 6439 | 8.52 | 1330 |
| 12-0-8 | 36 lbs. nitrogen + 24 lbs. potash | *29.31 | 5502 | 7.07 | 1501 |
| | | †33.84 | 6715 | 8.56 | 1606 |
| 0-0-0 | Check—No fertilizer | *22.24 | 4001 | | |
| | | †25.28 | 5109 | | |

*These results are the average of two fields of C.P. 807 on Mandalay and Ranch Plantations, near Honma, La., both of which had been farmed under a three year rotation of plant cane, first year stubble and corn and beans, with the latter turned under as green manure.

†These results are from one field with Co. 290 at Belle Terre Plantation, six miles south of Donaldsonville, La., where two crops of corn and beans were "hogged down" prior to planting the experiment.

Fertilizers applied at the rate of 60 pounds of total plant food per acre.

[**Part II of this article will appear in Sugar Bulletin of February 1st, 1937**]


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THE

# SUGAR BULLETIN

Entered as second-class matter April 13, 1925, at the post office at New Orleans, La., under Act of March 6, 1879.

We stand for the encouragement of Home Industries as against Foreign Competition.

Vol. 15 NEW ORLEANS, LA., FEBRUARY 1, 1937 No. 9

## The following Resolution was unanimously adopted at the regular monthly meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Sugar Cane League held January 27th, 1937:

« « » »

*WHEREAS* the American Sugar Cane League, on behalf of its 7771 members and all sugarcane producers in Louisiana, has consistently demanded the elimination of any quota restrictive of the continental production of sugar, and upon all occasions has declared that an equitable settlement of the Louisiana quota problem is a necessary condition precedent to any commitment on proposed legislation, or any part thereof,

*BE IT RESOLVED* that the American Sugar Cane League reiterates its declared position of unwillingness to support any proposal which fails to provide an adequate quota for Louisiana, for the simple reason that there can be no equitable solution of the problems of the sugarcane growers of Louisiana unless the present restrictive quota figures are removed entirely or replaced with a quota for Louisiana based on the normal production records of the past and the production and prospects of the present, or there be provided by law a continental quota equally advantageous to the growers of all the sugar producing States.

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED* that the American Sugar Cane League expresses its appreciation of the continuing efforts of the Senators and Representatives in Congress for the betterment of the Louisiana sugar cane industry, which is so important to the general welfare of the State of Louisiana, and expresses its confidence in the success of their pleading of our cause before Congress and the officials of the National Administration.

THE
# SUGAR BULLETIN

407 Carondelet St., New Orleans
Reginald Dykers, Editor

Issued on the 1st and 15th of each month. Official Organ of the American Sugar Cane League of the U. S. A., in which are consolidated
The Louisiana Sugar Planters' Assn.
The American Cane Growers' Assn.
The Producers & Mfrs. Protective Assn.
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## How Much Sugar Has Louisiana Produced?

*(By C. J. Bourg)*

References have been made to the production of sugar in Louisiana in several published statements recently. We are pleased to direct attention to some official statistics regarding our industry, with appropriate explanations. The greatest production of Louisiana sugar according to the records appearing in the United States Department of Agriculture Year Books and figures published by the United States Tariff Commission, were for the years 1904 when 398,195 short tons and 1908 when 397,600 short tons of actual sugars "as made" were produced. It is well known that a large percentage of the Louisiana production in those years was plantation granulated and yellow clarified sugars, so that in order to determine the "raw value" it is necessary to take into account these high testing sugars, because for the purposes of quotas and Federal regulations all sugars are converted into "short tons raw value." Thus it is accurate to state that in each of the years 1904 and 1908 the production of sugar in Louisiana was approximately 415,000 short tons raw value.

As far as the records of the United States Department of Agriculture Year Books show, the year of greatest production of *sugarcane* was in 1911 when 5,887,292 short tons of sugarcane were grown on 310,000 acres. Although in 1911 the average yield of sugarcane per acre was 19 tons, the sugar made per ton of cane was only 120 pounds (due to an early severe freeze) which accounts for the fact that only 352,874 short tons of sugar was produced in that year.

According to the published records of the United States Tariff Commission the continental United States cane sugar delivered during 1909 for consumption in the United States was 459,155 short tons "refined and/or consumption basis". At that time Texas was producing an average of less than 15,000 tons annually, and Florida was producing none, so that practically this entire amount was Louisiana sugar; therefore, it can be safely stated that the amount of Louisiana sugar delivered for consumption in 1909 was well in excess of 450,000 "short tons raw value". As quotas represent deliveries for consumption, rather than production, this sugar in excess of 450,000 short tons raw value represents the peak of Louisiana's past performance in furnishing sugar to the United States market.

Since 1900 the production of sugar in Louisiana is represented by the following figures taken from Year Books of the Department of Agriculture. It should be noted that these production figures are given in short tons but are not converted to "raw value", which is the current basis of discussion with reference to quotas and all matters pertaining to legislation. Louisiana has always produced a considerable proportion of its sugar for direct consumption and this fact must be taken into consideration to determine the "short tons raw value" of the figures presented below:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1901-02 | 360,277 | short tons "as made" |
| 1902-03 | 368,734 | |
| 1903-04 | 255,894 | |
| 1904-05 | 398,195 | |
| 1905-06 | 377,162 | |
| 1906-07 | 257,600 | |
| 1907-08 | 380,800 | |
| 1908-09 | 397,600 | |
| 1909-10 | 364,000 | |
| 1910-11 | 342,720 | |
| 1911-12 | 352,874 | |
| 1912-13 | 153,573 | |
| 1913-14 | 292,698 | |
| 1914-15 | 242,700 | |
| 1915-16 | 137,500 | |
| 1916-17 | 303,900 | |
| 1917-18 | 243,600 | |
| 1918-19 | 280,900 | |
| 1919-20 | 121,000 | |
| 1920-21 | 169,127 | |
| 1921-22 | 324,431 | |
| 1922-23 | 295,095 | |
| 1923-24 | 162,023 | |
| 1924-25 | 88,000 | |
| 1925-26 | 139,000 | |
| 1926-27 | 47,000 | |
| 1927-28 | 71,000 | |
| 1928-29 | 132,000 | |
| 1929-30 | 200,000 | |
| 1930-31 | 184,000 | |
| 1931-32 | 157,000 | |
| 1932-33 | 223,000 | |
| 1933-34 | 205,000 | |
| 1934-35 | 234,000 | |
| 1935-36 | 333,000 | |
| 1936-37 | 343,000 | (estimated by U. S. Crop Reporting Board) |

# Fertilization of Plant Cane On Some of the More Important Soils of the Sugarcane District of Louisiana

*By A. M. O'Neal, Associate Soil Technologist and L. A. Hurst, Biochemist, Division of Soil Fertility Investigations, Bureau of Plant Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture.*

PART II.

(Part one of this article was published in The Sugar Bulletin of Jan. 15th, 1937)

## Lintonia Soil

The Lintonia silt loam is an important soil type of the Mississippi Alluvium, terrace soil area. Typically it consists of a brown to dark brown surface soil underlain by a friable subsoil of a brown to yellowish brown color. It is a well drained, thoroughly oxidized, mature soil with an acidity reaction ranging from pH 5.0 to 6.0 for the surface and pH 4.5 to 5.5 for the subsoil.

The data from two experiments are now available, one from Roy Plantation, one mile east of Lafayette and the other on the Billeaud Plantation, approximately three miles east of Broussard and nine miles from Roy Plantation. Both soils have been farmed under a three year rotation of plant and stubble cane, corn and beans, with the bean crop turned under as green manure.

Table 5. Plant Cane Results on Lintonia Silt Loam, Roy Plantation, Lafayette, La., and Billeaud Plantation, Broussard, La.

| Mixture Percent N-P-K | Pounds Plant Food Applied per Acre | Tons cane per acre | Pounds sugar per acre | Increase over check | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | Cane per acre | Sugar per acre |
| 20-0-0 | 60 lbs. nitrogen per acre | *42.11 | 6664 | 1.27 | 230 |
| | | †17.75 | 3745 | 3.18 | 518 |
| 16-4-0 | 48 lbs. nitrogen + 12 lbs. phosphoric acid | *42.20 | 7020 | 1.36 | 586 |
| 16-0-4 | 48 lbs. nitrogen + 12 lbs. potash | *41.47 | 6571 | .63 | 137 |
| 12-8-0 | 36 lbs. nitrogen + 24 lbs. phosphoric acid | *42.53 | 7191 | 1.69 | 757 |
| | | †16.87 | 3634 | 2.30 | 407 |
| 12-4-4 | 36 lbs. nitrogen + 12 lbs. phosphoric acid + 12 lbs. potash | *40.87 | 6744 | .03 | 310 |
| | | †18.78 | 4060 | 4.21 | 833 |
| 12-0-8 | 36 lbs. nitrogen + 24 lbs. potash | *42.54 | 6677 | 1.70 | 243 |
| | | †17.15 | 3668 | 2.58 | 441 |
| 0-0-0 | Check—No fertilizer | *40.84 | 6434 | | |
| | | †14.57 | 3227 | | |

*Roy Field where applications of 60 pounds of total plant food per acre were made on Co. 290 plant cane.
†Billeaud Field where applications of 80 pounds of total plant food per acre were made on P. O. J. 36 plant cane.

The increase of the fertilized over the unfertilized cane was not as large on the Roy Plantation, Table 5, as on many other plantations, owing to its higher average fertility, as shown by the unfertilized plots. The 12-8-0 mixture made the highest yield of 42.53 tons of cane and 7191 pounds of sugar per acre, a gain over check of 1.69 tons and 757 pounds of sugar per acre. The 16-4-0 and 12-0-8 also made fair increases over the check in both tonnage and sugar per acre. The 60 pound application of nitrogen, alone, was next to the lowest of the fertilized plots.

At the Billeaud Field, Table 5, nine miles east of Roy Plantation, very definite increases were made by the high nitrogen mixtures, particularly the 12-4-4 mixture which produced 4.21 tons of cane and 833 pounds more sugar per acre than check. The next highest yield was from the nitrogen, alone, with an increase of 3.18 tons and 518 pounds of sugar per acre.

Similar experiments with first and second year stubble cane, extending over the period 1930-1933, indicate a more definite and somewhat different trend from the plant cane in that with few exceptions the highest sugar yields were made by mixtures of nitrogen and potash.

## Iberia Soils

The Iberia silt loam is an important soil of the Gulf Coastal Prairie area. It has dark grayish brown to almost black surface soils and dark gray to gray heavy textured subsoils that are mottled with gray and rust brown. Lime concretions occur at 16 to 20 inches below the surface and the soil has an alkaline reaction. Natural drainage is not sufficient for best results and open ditches are necessary.

The experiments on Iberia silt loam were located on Albania Plantation near Jeanerette, La. The land at both locations had been farmed under a rotation system of two years in plant and stubble cane and one year of corn and beans with the bean crop turned under as green manure. The previous stubble crops received approximately 40 pounds of nitrogen per acre, whereas the plant cane was never fertilized.

Table 6. Results of Plant Cane Tests on Iberia Silt Loam, Albania Plantation, Jeanerette, La. Average of two fields

| Mixture Percent N-P-K | Pounds Plant Food Applied per Acre | Tons cane per acre | Pounds sugar per acre | Increase over check | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | Cane per acre | Sugar per aere |
| 20-0-0 | 60 lbs. nitrogen alone | 42.31 | 8712 | 14.76 | 2517 |
| 16-4-0 | 48 lbs. nitrogen + 12 lbs. phosphoric acid | 41.56 | 8397 | 14.01 | 2202 |
| 16-0-4 | 48 lbs. nitrogen + 12 lbs. potash | 43.13 | 9147 | 15.58 | 2952 |
| 12-8-0 | 36 lbs. nitrogen + 24 lbs. phosphoric acid | 40.23 | 8448 | 12.68 | 2253 |
| 12-4-4 | 36 lbs. nitrogen + 12 lbs. phosphoric acid + 12 lbs. potash | 39.46 | 8367 | 11.91 | 2172 |
| 12-0-8 | 36 lbs. nitrogen + 24 lbs. potash | 40.46 | 8467 | 12.91 | 2272 |
| 0-0-0 | Check—No fertilizer | 27.55 | 6195 | | |

Average results of two fields with Co. 290—plant cane.

In Table 7 which includes the average results of two experiments with Co. 290 plant cane it will be

observed that large increases over check were obtained ranging from 11.91 tons of cane and 2172 pounds of sugar per acre for the 12-4-4 mixture to 15.58 tons and 2952 pounds of sugar per acre for the 16-0-4 mixture. The more detailed results of the two fields showed that both in 1933 and 1935, the 16-0-4 plot, which received 48 pounds of nitrogen and 12 pounds of potash per acre, made the high yield. Nitrogen, alone applied at the same rate, 60 pounds per acre, was second with 14.76 tons of cane and 2517 pounds more sugar per acre than the check or unfertilized plots.

### Franklin Soil

The Franklin silt loam is developed throughout the Mississippi-Red River area. The surface soil is light brown to grayish brown and the sub-soil mottled gray, rust brown and pale yellow with interbedded light and heavy textured horizons or layers. The differences in the texture of these subsoil horizons, however, are not as pronounced as in the case of the Yazoo series, which it resembles. These soils also differ in their pH reaction, the Franklin being for the most part acid with a range of pH 5.5 to 7.0. The soil is usually developed on the front lands bordering water courses, particularly Bayou Teche. Natural drainage is fair but not sufficient and open ditches are necessary.

The plant cane test on Franklin silt loam was laid out on a uniform body of soil on Arlington Plantation, near Franklin, La. The Co. 281 sugarcane used in this experiment was planted in the fall of 1933 following a crop of beans that were turned under.

Table 7. Plant Cane Results on Franklin Silt Loam near Franklin, La., During the Season of 1934

| Mixture Percent N-P-K | Pounds Plant Food Applied per Acre | Tons cane per acre | Pounds sugar per acre | Increase over check | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | Cane per acre | Sugar per acre |
| 20-0-0 | 60 lbs. nitrogen alone | 20.71 | 4553 | .78 | −127 |
| 16-4-0 | 48 lbs. nitrogen + 12 lbs. phosphoric acid | 21.39 | 4904 | 1.46 | 224 |
| 16-0-4 | 48 lbs. nitrogen + 12 lbs. potash | 22.17 | 5106 | 2.24 | 426 |
| 12-8-0 | 36 lbs. nitrogen M 24 lbs. phosphoric acid | 19.75 | 4323 | −.18 | −357 |
| 12-4-4 | 36 lbs. nitrogen + 12 lbs. phosphoric acid + 12 lbs. potash | 21.50 | 5075 | 1.57 | 395 |
| 12-0-8 | 36 lbs. nitrogen + 24 lbs. potash | 22.46 | 5215 | 2.53 | 535 |
| 0-0-0 | Check—No fertilizer | 19.93 | 4680 | | |

Variety: Co. 281.
Fertilizer applied at rate of 60 pounds of total plant food per acre.

The results of this experiment are given in Table 7 which show that certain fertilizer mixtures did increase the yield of plant cane. The 12-0-8 mixture, equivalent to 36 pounds of nitrogen and 24 lbs. of potash, and the 16-0-4 mixture, equivalent to 48 lbs. of nitrogen and 12 pounds of potash per acre, produced 2.53 and 2.24 tons of cane and 535 and 426 pounds more sugar respectively per acre than the check which received no fertilizer. The 16-4-0 and 12-4-4 mixtures also produced approximately 1-1/2 tons more cane and 224 to 395 pounds more sugar per acre than the check. The 12-8-0 mixture produced .18 of a ton less cane and 357 less pounds of sugar per acre than the unfertilized checks. Nitrogen, alone, produced .78 ton more cane but 127 pounds less sugar per acre than check.

### Summary

The experimental fields, the results from which are included in this paper, were located on widely separated typical bodies of the different soil types being studied and no attempt was made to create conditions that could not be duplicated by the planters. Since these tests have been handled in the same manner as commercially grown sugarcane on other parts of the plantation, on which they were located, it would appear reasonable to assume that similar soil types on the same plantation or throughout the same soil area should respond to similar fertilizer treatments though they might vary somewhat with former cultural practices. That the sixteen different replicated experiments on plant cane have generally shown increases over the unfertilized checks is of importance to the growers. It would seem from these data that plant cane sugar yields can be economically increased by the use of proper fertilizer mixtures. More research is being conducted along this line to determine the fertilizer requirements of the different varieties of sugarcane on the various soil types, with green manure cover crops turned under and when they are harvested for hay. Information on the effect of different rates of application of the different fertilizer mixtures, of different sources of nitrogen and other materials, is being ascertained, all of which information is highly useful to the sugar industry in making it more profitable both to the growers and the manufacturers.

THE END

# Rainbow Chorus

We seem to be entering on an era of self-analysis. Following closely on the heels of the comprehensive "Survey of the Louisiana Sugar Industry" by R. J. Saville and A. L. Dugas, of which we published a review in our December 15th, 1936 issue, there comes to us a digest of the actualities and possibilities of the sugar industry of Terrebonne Parish, compiled by a committee of planters and others in that Parish, in co-operation with the County Agent, Mr. C. C. Couvillion.

This digest is separated into six parts, as follows:
Cane Tonnage
Acreage
Number of Operating Mills
Workers Involved
Dependents
Gross Money Values

It seeks to make plain, in these six respects, the situation in Terrebonne Parish in the normal period of 1904 to 1911, in the worst part of the mosaic disease period (1926), in 1935 when our recovery was obvious and, finally, in 1936.

In 1904-11, it appears, the cane tonnage of Terrebonne was 450,000 tons, there were 28, 125 acres in cane, 16 factories were in operation, 4993 all-the-

year-round workers were employed, who had dependent on them 20,970 persons, and the gross value of the crop, after processing, was $4,050,000.00.

In the tragic year of 1926 the cane tonnage fell to 41,997 tons, the acreage to 10,852, the number of factories to one, the number of workers to 1490 representing 6258 dependents, and the value of the processed crop to $377,973.00.

In 1935 the pendulum had swung far back, and the cane tonnage, while not equal to the average of 1904-1911, was up to 382,160, while the acreage was up to 23,885. Four mills were in operation, 4133 workers were employed, having 17,358 dependents, and the value of the processed crop was $3,439,440.00. In 1936, the figures, which necessarily are to some extent estimated at this time, show 476,501 tons of cane, 25,079 acres, 4 mills operating, 4335 workers with 18,207 dependents and a processed crop valuation of $4,288,509.00.

All that is statistical stuff, and statistics are notoriously prosy, even when they are encouraging. The Committee, however, does not intend that its survey shall lack a dash of imagination to lend it piquancy. It adds a section devoted to things as they ought to be, and as the Committee believes they can be and probably will be. They envisage, for instance, a cane tonnage of 730,800, based on carefully investigated possibilities and potentialities. They foresee, after holding 27 farmers' meetings in ten wards of the Parish, 40,600 acres in cane. They announce that the Parish should have, to take care of that cane, 12 mills. They figure that 7,462 workers will be needed, supporting 31,340 persons, and that the processed crop will be worth $6,577,-200.00.

As an argument for an increased quota for Louisiana the Terrebonne Parish Committee has compiled a valuable brief. May all their hopes come true.

The Terrebonne Parish Committee comprises a first class rainbow chorus. By that we do not mean that they are chasing rainbows. Far from it. The original rainbow was accepted as a promise that the worst was over and that brighter days and greater possibilities lay ahead. Exactly that significance attaches to the statements of the Terrebonne Parish Committee.

## Excess Profits?

*Editor Sugar Bulletin*:

We note that a movement is on to apply a Special Tax in the nature of a processing tax on sugar "because of the excessive profits being made by the sugar industry".

Curiosity prompts the writer to take his pen in hand and write this article, because he would like to know where the idea of excess profits originated. The writer is no financier, neither is he a sugar producer or manufacturer. He is, however, chief engineer for one of the largest sugar factories in Louisiana and has been closely associated with sugar production in Louisiana for sixteen years and believes he has some knowledge of the situation.

Nowhere can there be found an industry as full of optimists as is the Louisiana cane industry. Year after year, starting in 1920, saw factory after factory close down, sugar producer after sugar producer lose his plantation to the banks (who were just as big optimists as the sugar men) and right to-day every one of these old owners are still optimists and would return to sugar production if funds were available. The proof of this is borne out by the formation of several cooperatives in the last two years, with Federal aid.

Nothing was said, to the best of our knowledge, during the period of 1920 to 1928, eight long years, when the sugar industry was dwindling from a stalwart industry into bankruptcy due to "acts of God", flood, drouth, plant disease, freezing weather in early fall, and other ills too numerous to mention while other industries, many of a mushroom nature for a fact, expanded through boom times reaping profits and building surpluses such as were never dreamed possible before. No Federal aid was advanced the sugar producers while the very industry trembled on the verge of complete destruction. Only the few were able to stand the pressure of those years. Only the sugar industry could have withstood the assault because it is essentially an industry whose profit or loss depends to such a great extent on "acts of God". It has taken great vision, faith and plain "guts" on the part of owners of sugar properties in Louisiana to resurrect the fallen giant to the point where prosperity is again possible in the industry in Louisiana. Discriminating taxation can change this picture. The industry needs a little profit, if you please, and we can tell you why.

There is not a single factory in the state that hasn't plans at present to expend more money than it has made in profits during the past few years. Millions of dollars worth of new equipment needs to be purchased if the industry is to continue. There isn't any other industry as willing to spend money as are the Louisiana sugar producers and planters. For sixteen years the funds have not been available. Now that there is a chance for it, it is a pity that additional taxation may stalemate the movement.

Every sugar factory in the state has been embarrassed more than once because funds have not been available to install needed improvements and necessary replacements. Let us cite a few concrete examples which are not fancied pictures but actual experiences. Factory X had to replace a multiple evaporator. Funds were not available to buy new equipment. Owner of Factory X contacted Mr. W. who knows every piece of idle sugar machinery in the state and jobs them, a piece at a time, to factory operators in need. Mr. W. informs owner of X that the industry has already used every available multiple evaporator from the closed factories in the sugar belt that can be re-used but he can furnish a calandria from closed factory "B", a heat belt from closed factory "C", Vapor pipe from closed factory "D" and a condenser from still another source. Owner of "X" can assemble these parts into a bastard assembly and "get by" for a few more years until some profits are available, for improvement. This case is typical of many others we can cite but is used to show that surely there can not be too much "excess profit" in the industry. This case happened in the year 1936, it is typical of many of our sugar factories supposed to be reaping excess profits in the same year.

Just last week the writer was 'phoned at night and asked "Have you got a spare spur gear for your

last mill?" The answer was *no* but there is a duplicate at Factory "S" which has been shut down for several years. So we loaned a crew to our neighbor in trouble to take down this "spare" for him in order to help out in the hour of need. If this spirit of cooperation had not existed in the sugar industry in Louisiana for many years many tons of cane would have remained in the fields—a total loss to the growers

A vast majority of the equipment in Louisiana sugar houses is obsolete. Why? Because the factory owners can not replace them with the profits (losses for as many years) previously experienced. The milling equipment alone in the state would call for expenditures of millions of dollars if the profits were available to make it sound economy. With the exception of two mills in the state there is not a single mill in a factory designed to grind the hard fibered cane that came to the aid of the sugar planters enabling them to again produce sugar cane in decent tonnage. Incidentally these two factories with their modern mills no longer belong to the owners of 1920. The milling equipment in the State was designed to mill the soft native cane of the period early in the century. The gear trains are mostly cast iron, the mill housings of cast iron and the roll shafts too small to allow applications of sufficient pressure to extract the cane juice to the present standards of modern sugar production. Roughly a modern mill (crushing equipment, exclusive of other factory machinery) costs about $100.00 per ton of cane capacity per day. That is a mill of to-day's design capable of grinding 1000 tons per day would cost erected about $100,000.00 One of 2000 tons daily capacity about $200,000.00. Let us consider factory "R" which is operating in the state now, having a capacity of 1500 tons per day and grinding 110,000 tons of cane yearly. This mill because of its design is only able to extract 90% of the sugar in the cane. A modern mill would extract 95% of the sugar in the cane. Therefore it is logical to assume that if the financial condition was sound this modernizing would follow as a matter of course. It would in any other industry where profits have been secure but the situation is reversed in the Louisiana sugar industry where excess profits are supposed to exist. With the present prices the investment in the necessary new milling equipment which would increase extraction 5/90 X 100 = 5.5% *would not liquidate the cost of the equipment* in twenty years. And these replacements *should* be made. It should be financially possible to eliminate make shift practices in the sugar industry. It should be allowed to keep in step with other industries and this is only possible if a decent profit is allowed both the grower and the manufacturer.

The Louisiana sugar planters, long before President Roosevelt broached his plan for better housing of the masses, were anxious and desirous of bettering the homes and living conditions of their laborers, but adverse conditions enumerated above forebade this much needed improvement. Even now after only one or two years of better conditions in the industry, plans are being drawn and work of construction already begun for improved homes and sanitation by several of the large sugar companies.

The writer, having no axe to grind except a desire to see equal rights with other industries, states that the so called "excess profits" do not exist. There may be an *apparent* profit in 1935 and 1936 due to practice of excruciating economy and makeshifts which apply to the growers and factory alike and makeshift measures to tide over rising emergencies. This condition cannot continue to exist. It should not have to exist.

Why should American manufacturers turn to Mexico, South America and other *foreign* countries to market modern sugar machinery? Simply because the economic structure is such that home industry can not been permitted to become financially able to do so!

Let a few profits go to the Louisiana sugar industry, both grower and factory, and these profits will do far more general good than the single revenue the government will derive from a processing tax. If allowed a decent certain low taxed or equally taxed existence the sales of farm and factory equipment to the Louisiana sugar industry will profit others even more than the Louisiana sugar industry.

The serious industrial problem of neglected maintenance and improvement in Louisiana's sugar industry can not be licked by slapping on additional taxes. Always a "fighting fool", all it needs is a decent opportunity to right itself.

"Excess Profits"—from whence came the idea?

*Edwin L. Dennis.*

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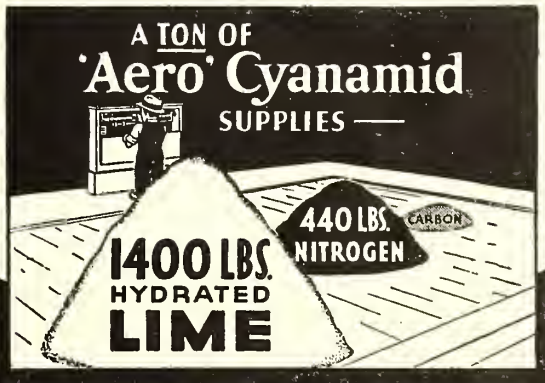


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THE
# SUGAR BULLETIN

Entered as second-class matter April 13, 1925, at the post office at New Orleans, La., under Act of March 6, 1879.

We stand for the encouragement of Home Industries as against foreign competition.

Vol. 15 NEW ORLEANS, LA., FEBRUARY 15, 1937 No. 10

## Yo Yo? -- No, No!

In the early days of the present month the City of New Orleans was visited by Mr. Quintin Paredes, Jr., Charge d'affaires of the office of the Philippine Resident Commissioner in Washington, and Dr. Diosdado M. Yap, his technical assistant. The avowed purpose of these two apostles from the far east is to learn all they can about the status of Filipinos in the United States and to learn all they can about the possibility of developing more trade between the Philippines and the United States. They had already been to St. Louis, Kansas City and Houston and expected to visit Mobile, Atlanta, Savannah and perhaps other places. While here, the New Orleans Association of Commerce gave them a luncheon, in conjunction with the local Philippine colony.

There has never been a more costly excrescence on the body politic of the United States than the Philippine Islands. Acquired as the spoils of war, they swiftly developed a parasitical role and played it with constantly increasing ingenuity, skill and success for almost forty years. Not satisfied with flooding the United States with cheap sugar and cheap vegetable oil, and cheap produce of various other kinds that wrought havoc with the sugar planters, cotton oil people and numerous other groups engaged in planting and manufacturing in this country and who were utterly unable to compete in cost of production, they finally developed acute acquisitiveness for the political offices in their archipelago, some of which were beyond their control as long as the United States held sovereignity over them. Spurred on by the appetizing aroma of the political pie counter they agitated for, and finally secured, their independence and all the perquisites of office-holding that such a state implied.

Of course independence interfered with the free and unrestricted shipment into this country of the destructive avalanche of products made with their cheap Oriental labor, and it interfered with their coming here themselves, less than a hundred of their ten million people being allowed, now, to migrate here each year.

All these unpalatable concomitants of their independence, however, the Filipinos have never reconciled themselves to accept. Knowing, from having observed numerous other cases and examples, that Uncle Sam falls for almost any sort of a plea provided it has to pass over salt water on its way here, they are now laying the foundation for a slow—or, if possible, rapid—disintegration of the restrictions on imports and immigration from the islands to the United States.

Notwithstanding the status they have obtained as an independent nation, with its all-important political job-holding accessory, Mr. Paredes said the other day in New Orleans: "We do not believe that our imports (into the United States) should be charged duties or be excise taxed, or that our immigration should be restricted, for we are not aliens but a part of the United States, to which we and all our officials must swear allegiance and to which we are happy to swear allegiance. Our principal exports are sugar, cordage and cocoanut oil. In 1934 Philippine im-

THE
# SUGAR BULLETIN

407 Carondelet St., New Orleans

Reginald Dykers, Editor

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The American Cane Growers' Assn.
The Producers & Mfrs. Protective Assn.
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**ports at New Orleans totaled $14,212,000.00. Exports from New Orleans to the Philippines in that year were $44,000."**

**The bland way in which this astonishing balance of trade against the United States, as represented by the Port of New Orleans, was put forward by Mr. Paredes as an argument in favor of the re-establishment of such conditions is typically Oriental. Every penny's worth of that $14,212,000.00 of imports broke down the price on some commodity grown or manufactured by our people here.**

**The Rotary Club, the Lions Club, the Kiwanis Club and the New Orleans Association of Commerce all tendered luncheons to the two distinguished missionaries of the Cult of Casuistry. In fact they received so many invitations they had to decline some of them.**

**A parallel might be found if a drummer for 5c Japanese electric light bulbs was feasted in Schenectady.**

# Valuable Seedlings Saved

We publish below the text of a letter received from Dr. E. W. Brandes, Principal Pathologist in Charge, Division of Sugar Plant Investigations, Bureau of Plant Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture, in which he points out how a helping hand extended to the Division of Sugar Plant Investigations by the American Sugar Cane League in 1935 salvaged from destruction a number of seedling canes, among which four promising new crosses were discovered. Among the progency a ten-stalk sample showed 14.07 sucrose in early October. The original seedlings, some 5000 in number, were transferred from Canal Point, Florida, to Houma, La., with funds supplied by the American Sugar Cane League for the purpose. Had not this assistance been forthcoming the seedlings could not have been saved.

Dr. Brandes writes as follows:

*Washington, January* 13, 1937.

*Mr. Reginald Dykers,*
*Vice President and General Manager,*
*American Sugar Cane League,*
407 *Carondelet Street,*
*New Orleans, Louisiana.*

*Dear Mr. Dykers:*

After reading your leading article in the December 15 issue of the Sugar Bulletin which explains the Executive Committee's decision to erect a more permanent type of building at the Houma station, it occurred to me that you might be interested in the prospective benefit from the expenditure of a small, emergency grant of funds earlier extended to this station. Dr. R. D. Rands has directed attention to the good results of this grant of $200 proffered in March, 1935 which enabled the bringing over from Florida and testing at Houma of some 5,000 additional seedlings.

As you will recall, this money was paid out by you on certified bills covering expense of transporting the young, freshly sprouted seedlings, for paper pots, extra labor for potting, watering, and establishing the plants in the field. This sum furnished by the League represented, of course, only a small fraction of the total cost of subsequent testing of these seedlings. Nevertheless, coming as it did in the latter part of the fiscal year after all of our regular funds had been committed and largely spent, it did make possible the saving of these seedlings.

Unfortunately, due to unpredictable weather conditions, it is impossible to determine in advance the number of new seedlings that will be produced any year at our Canal Point station. The winter of 1934-35 was a banner breeding season; many crosses that were previously a total failure gave abundant seedlings, and others of proven value (such as the one that gave C. P. 28/19) produced many more seedlings than usual. Consequently there was not enough land at our Florida station to put them all out, and the seemingly only alternative was to discard the surplus.

The timely action by the League not only saved the majority of these seedlings but incidentally made the project a large-scale experiment on the feasibility and cost of carrying out these initial seedling propagating steps at Houma. I shall not go into

detail now on this or other phases, but merely mention some of the tentative results to date, for naturally it is still too early in their testing to determine whether any of these seedlings will be promising enough to replace present commercial varieties.

The 5,000 seedlings that survived and were studied as single stools in 1935 and 1936 were the progenies of 17 crosses representing mostly new combinations. On the basis of number, disease resistance, and quality of primary selections (i. e., those receiving C.P. numbers), four promising new crosses were discovered. Therefore, even if none of the present seedlings should prove of value to the industry, repetition of these matings in future years (already partly accomplished in 1936) should give seedlings from which a superior cane may be found.

While these original 5,000 single stools were not as far advanced in growth as regular plant cane in the fall of 1935, it was possible on the basis of mosaic, red rot and hand refractometer tests to pick out and replant 319 of them in 6-20 ft. plots. It was anticipated that additional ones would show up as promising in the first stubbles in 1936, and when the additional tests were completed in October, 237 more were selected. These latter will be candidates for C.P. numbers in the fall of 1937. In the meantime the increase plots of the first group (319) were further studied in 1936, and after a sucrose analysis, 33 primary selections were assigned C.P. numbers and the seed cane distributed to other stations. It may be mentioned in passing that a 10-stalk sample of one selection revealed a plant cane analysis of 14.07% sucrose in early October. Many of the remaining selections were equal or higher than Co. 281 in these preliminary tests with greater potential tonnage and disease resistance.

A summary of the large seedling report (from which the above figures are taken) will be prepared in due course by Drs. Abbott, Rands and Summers for publication in the *Sugar Bulletin*. I have written this letter merely to emphasize the value of this individual instances of past cooperation by the League.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) E. W. BRANDES

*E. W. Brandes,*
*Principal Pathologist in Charge,*
*Division of Sugar Plant Investigations.*

## New Orleans Ass'n. of Commerce Adopts Strong Resolution

We print below a resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of the New Orleans Association of Commerce on January 13th, 1937. This resolution defines the position of the New Orleans Association of Commerce towards national legislation affecting the Louisiana sugar industry:

WHEREAS, it is the established policy of the United States to protect home industries, and

WHEREAS, the sugar industry of the State of Louisiana is of primary importance to the well-being of New Orleans, constituting a large portion of its business and providing a livelihood for several hundred thousand persons residing in the State, and

WHEREAS, this country produces only a small proportion of the total amount of sugar, both beet and cane, consumed by its people and could readily supply a greater proportion, employing additional people and removing families from relief rolls,

We, therefore, earnestly recommend and urge that the Agricultural Department of the United States remove all restrictions on the amount of sugar to be produced in the United States, permitting the expansion of the industry to the benefit of the localities in which it thrives and to the benefit of the people of the United States as a whole.

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to any of its members who may have occasion to use it. Business conferences in New Orleans may thus be held in a secluded and entirely neutral atmosphere, which is sometimes preferable to using the office of one of the conferring parties. No advance notice necessary. Just use the room at your convenience.

# Senator Overton Introduces Sugar Bill

Senator John H. Overton of Louisiana has introduced a Bill in which he proposes the Sugar Act of 1937. This Bill provides for the continuance of the sugar quota system which has been in effect for several years but the Senator from Louisiana offers several changes which he declares are based upon the experiences of the domestic sugar industry under the Sugar Act of 1934 which is now in force.

Explaining the purposes and objectives of his Bill, Senator Overton declared, "I firmly believe that any permanent policy relative to sugar should provide unrestricted production of sugar in the United States. However, I find that because of the Cuban Treaty and other so-called obligations to our government, it is not considered practical at this time to adopt any sugar program which does not provide for quantitative restrictions on domestic production. For this reason I am proposing a Bill for a term of four years, so that further consideration can be given in the future to the development of a program which would remove restrictive quotas. It is my belief and information that the continental area probably will not be able to produce and distribute for consumption more than one-third of the requirements of the United States within the next four years, and I have accordingly set this figure as a limitation. By establishing a ratio of supply for continental sugar and giving to Louisiana a minimum of 22%, the effect is for all practical purposes to set the quota equivalent for Louisiana, at some flexible figure between 450,000 and 500,000 tons. Taking as an example the 1937 consumption already estimated by the Secretary at 6,682,670 tons, we would have a possible continental quota of approximately 2,230,000 tons of which Louisiana would be entitled to a minimum of 490,000, the Beet States 1,650,000 and Florida 90,000. As consumption in the United States increases, so would each minimum proportionately. Of course, with a continental quota in force there would be no restriction on the production of sugar in any State until the full continental quota would be exceeded. In other words, the deficits of individual States would be immediately available to the other States without the necessity of reallocation."

The Overton Bill fixes a maximum for the continental quota at one-third of the consumption requirements of the United States, but provides a just, equitable and satisfactory formula within the maximum whereby the continental quota from year to year can be set at a figure representative of the amount of continental sugar available for distribution in each calendar year. This is accomplished by adding 35% to the inventory of sugar in the hands of continental processors as of January 1st, which in past experience has not been exceeded in the marketing volume of continental sugar during any one calendar year.

A departure from the present quota system procedure results from the proposal in the Overton Bill that any deficits in the continental quota shall first be prorated to the Territories and Island possessions of the United States. This places the domestic industry on a preferential basis as compared to foreign countries, in which category the Overton Bill includes both Cuba and the Philippine Islands.

Under the terms of the Bill the administration of sugar quotas would follow definite mandates both as to the time when and the manner of determining revisions in quotas. Outside of emergency reallocations, no quota revisions would be made after the initial quotas are set at the beginning of each year, except on September 1st based upon the trend of consumption in the first seven months of the year and on December 1st based upon the trend of consumption in the first ten months of the year. This would reduce to a minimum the uncertainties that have attended Government control.

"In order to protect the growers against price declines", Senator Overton declared, "I am proposing payment of not less than 60c per 100 pounds of sugar which amount represents the reduction in tariff protection under the Cuban Trade Agreement. Benefit payments to the growers could be made in larger amounts if the Secretary should determine that to be necessary to maintain the purchasing power of the farmer. It is my conception that the quota provisions of my Bill will maintain a reasonable price for sugar, with fairness to both the consumer and producer, and I have proposed the benefit payments as a safeguard against market fluctuations as well as a protection to the consumer. Provision is made for the protection of small producers to the extent that their right is recognized to produce a minimum necessary to a profitable agricultural operation, consistent with good farming practices in the experience of the local farming community. My Bill also provides for a commensurate distribution of the benefits to the laborer, so that the greatest amount of good will come in a local as well as a national sense to the communities and States where sugar is produced."

Copies of Senator Overton's Bill may be obtained, as soon as it is printed, by application to the American Sugar Cane League's Washington office, 510 Union Trust Bldg., or through application to Senator John H. Overton, Senate Office Building, Washington, D. C.

# Analysis of The Overton Bill

*(By C. J. Bourg)*

Sugar has been the subject of considerable debate on the floor of the House of Representatives in the past week, while the Bill extending the powers of the President with respect to Reciprocal Trade Agreements with foreign countries was under consideration. The debate in the House centered to a large extent upon the effect of the Cuban Trade Agreement.

On the Senate side Senator John H. Overton of Louisiana started the legislative ball rolling when he presented for consideration a bill proposing a new sugar act to continue in effect the sugar quota system under the Jones-Costigan Act, by making important changes for the benefit of the domestic sugar industry.

At the time of the introduction of his Bill Senator Overton explained its purposes and objectives. He declared that he still firmly believes in the principle of unrestricted production of sugar in the United States as the basis of any permanent Federal sugar policy. But the Senator has accepted the interpretation of the Cuban Reciprocal Trade Agreement as obligating the United States Government to provide quantitative restrictions on domestic production of sugar. For this reason his Bill is limited to a term of four years in the hope that at the end of that term a permanent policy can be adopted by Congress without restrictive quotas on sugar producing areas of the United States.

For the purposes of his four-year Bill Senator Overton has set as a maximum continental quota one-third of the consumption requirements of the United States, which is in fact a definite quantitative restriction on domestic production but which will permit normal expansion of the industry, including a proportionate participation in any increase in consumption requirements.

As long as the production of sugar in continental United States does not amount to one-third of the consumption requirements, each sugar producing State would be permitted to market its total production. But if such one-third established as a maximum should be exceeded in the total production of sugar producing States, then Senator Overton has placed a safeguard against any one continental area being deprived of its proportionate share. The Bill establishes a ratio of supply for continental sugar at 22% for Louisiana, 74% for the beet producing States and 4% for Florida. It should be well understood that this ratio would not be applied unless or until the continental production exceeds one-third of the estimate of consumption. Thus as consumption in the United States increases so would each minimum in proportion. For example, the Secretary of Agriculture has estimated that the consumption in the United States during 1937 will be 6,682,670 tons. If the actual consumption in 1937 should be as estimated, then for 1938 the maximum continental quota would be established in round numbers as 2,230,000 tons, of which Louisiana would be entitled to a minimum

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of 490,000 tons, the beet producing States 1,650,000 tons, and Florida 90,000 tons. The advantage of the continental quota is that if there are deficits in the production of any individual States, the other States would be able immediately to furnish the sugar to fill the quota without the necessity of formal action on the part of the Secretary of Agriculture reallocating the deficit. Based upon the experience of the past four years and the expectancy of the next four years, it is reasonable to anticipate that the production of continental sugar will not exceed any figure that may be determined as a continental quota under the terms of the Overton Bill.

Under the terms of the Bill the continental quota for 1937 would be the total of the quotas already established for the beet sugar producing area and the States of Louisiana and Florida, or 1,884,240. From year to year there would be a continental quota equal to the amount of sugar produced from sugarcane and sugar beets in continental United States available for distribution in the current year upon estimates of production and effective inventories.

In this connection the Overton Bill gives a preferential status to Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, so that in the event of deficits in the continental quota, these Territories and Possessions of the United States would receive the first proration of the sugar. In view of the change of Governmental status of the Philippine Islands since the enactment of the Jones-Costigan Act, the Philippine Islands are considered a foreign country on the same basis as Cuba. It is well known that the negotiations are under way for the establishment of a Reciprocal Trade Agreement between the United States and the Philippine Islands and preliminary thereto the United States Tariff Commission has issued a voluminous report on their trade relations. Besides, as previously explained in the *Bulletin,* the Philippine Islands have decided not to bring in any sugar above the limitation designated in the Philippine Independence Act for entry free of duty, because any sugar imported above this limitation would be subject to the full World-rate of duty collected from foreign countries, other than Cuba. It is also a fact under the sugar quota system that the allotment the Philippine quota and of the Cuban quota respectively to their producers is carried out by agencies of the Philippine Commonwealth and the Republic of Cuba, while in all cases of the domestic sugar industry these allotments are made by the Secretary of Agriculture.

The Overton Bill provides for definite times and methods for revising quotas to conform to consumption requirements. The initial quota having been fixed on February 1st of each year 5% of the total quotas of non-continental areas is reserved until the first revision on September 1st. This revision is based upon the experience of the first seven months of the current year as compared to the first seven months of the preceding year, so that any trend in consumption, whether increases or decreases, can be recognized and adjustments accordingly made. This basis appears sound for the reason that the February 1st initial quotas are made upon the actual consumption figures of the preceding year, which under the Bill would become the estimate of consumption for the current year. The September 1st revision would include the release of 3% from the 5% reserve. Then on December 1st there would be a final revision of quotas, at which time the remaining 2% of the reserve would be released and revisions made in accordance with the trend of consumption during the first ten months of the current year as compared to the first ten months of the preceding year.

In addition to these revisions on September 1st and December 1st, there is provided in the Overton Bill the power of the Secretary of Agriculture to reallocate the deficit of the continental area if he determines that this area is unable to fill its quota, and to reallocate that part of the quota or any one area, other than continental United States, which is unable to or does not fill its quota for the current year, by pro-rating such estimated deficit to the other producing areas according to their respective quotas. This authority given to the Secretary of Agriculture would make it impossible for any situation to arise whereby a shortage of sugar might occur either through the deliberate act of one area or through some disaster or crop failure. The consumer in the United

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States would be protected against any undue rise in the price of sugar, which under the quota system could only happen as a result of an insufficient supply of sugar, whatever the cause.

Because the orderly flow of sugar under the quota system serves to maintain a reasonable price, and because the effective tariff against Cuban sugar has been drastically reduced in recent years, Senator Overton has proposed payments of not less than 60c per 100 pounds of sugar to growers of the *final quota.* The direct purpose of basing the payments on final quotas is to guarantee to the grower that all of the cane he produces that is made into sugar distributed as parts of the quota, shall be the subject of payment. When payments are based upon initial quotas the grower has not received payments on all of his production, even though the sugar made from his cane has been permitted to be marketed as part of the quota. This provision would guarantee to the grower a full participation in all of the benefits of the quota system. It is perhaps unnecessary to point out that in 1936 the benefit payments offered were based upon an initial quota of 220,200 tons while the final quota for Louisiana amounted to practically 350,000 tons, in view of the final 1936 quota for Louisiana and Florida, after all revisions and reallocations being 392,000 tons. The 60c minimum payment set-out in the Overton Bill represents the reduction in the sugar tariff under the Cuban Trade Agreement and thus it makes available directly to the farmer the effective protection against reduced net returns which might result from tariff reduction. If the Secretary of Agriculture should determine that larger payments are necessary to restore the purchasing power of the sugarcane grower, the Bill provides authority for increased payments. The requirements upon which these payments are to be made are setout specifically, so that they will not become confused with the general requirements of the Soil Conservation Act. The payments to be made to growers under these general Soil Conservation provisions would be in addition to and independent of any payments authorized in the Overton Bill.

Senator Overton has made a part of his Bill a formal commitment expressing the intent of Congress that the Secretary shall establish a production minimum necessary to a profitable farming operation consistent with good farming practices and the experience of the Louisiana cane belt. While it is not possible to write into the law the regulations under which the program will be carried out, it is the purpose of the provision to lay the legal foundation for such regulations as will recognize the rights of small producers of sugarcane to be permitted to produce enough cane to secure net returns that will mean a profit, which in turn would extend the benefits of the program to the largest number of persons. The practical application of this provision will be made fairly simple because of the increased quota which is contemplated under the Overton Bill.

It is not anticipated that hearings will be called on the Overton Bill until other Bills expected to be introduced on the subject are before the Committee, including a Bill or Bills which the Administration is known to be preparing and which will probably be introduced shortly.


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THE
# SUGAR BULLETIN

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## The Frequency Of Selected Minimum Temperatures, By Ten-Day Periods, In The Sugar Region Of Southern Louisiana During The Cold Season

*(By R. A. Dyke, U. S. Weather Bureau)*

A need for summaries of temperature data for shorter periods than can be provided in the usual monthly and annual publications has been expressed by agricultural interests in order that the risk or probability of damage from low temperatures may be determined with considerable exactness. This paper has been prepared in response to such expressions and a recent request from the Sugar Experiment Station at Houma, La.

The stations selected for the data are in the sugar region of Louisiana. Cheneyville, in central Louisiana, represents the extreme northern border of the region. Data from Audubon Park, New Orleans, are included, chiefly because a Sugar Experiment Station was formerly located in the Park for many years. As shown by the data the Audubon Park minimum temperatures are slightly higher than minimum temperatures in the sugar belt, which is confined mainly to the area between the Mississippi River and Bayou Teche, but extends westward to include Lafayette and Vermilion Parishes. In the tables of data the stations are arranged according to geographical positions from north to south and from west to east.

The records are from stations with thermometers exposed about five feet above ground in the usual type of instrument shelter for cooperative observers. Rural conditions are represented for the most part, except at Donaldsonville, where the station is in town.

In considering field conditions it should be borne in mind that, with calm weather or light winds, the minimum temperatures are somewhat lower in locations some distance from the Mississippi River or other bodies of water than they are in locations near and to the leeward of water surfaces.

Temperatures in the twenties, Fahrenheit, are of chief concern to the sugar interests, for in the early cold waves of the harvesting season these temperatures cause damage in some years and stop the growth of the cane. Later, the growth of young cane is affected in late winter and spring. However, sugar cane is not the sole product of the region studied. Accordingly, this article is not confined to temperatures in the twenties. Frost, damaging to some products, forms at higher temperatures when conditions are favorable for frost; and widespread damage to hardy truck occurs at temperatures between 10° and 20°. The temperatures selected for tabulation are 37°, 32°, 29°, 26°, 23° and 20°, with 17° and 14° in some of the tables. The words "or lower" qualify each temperature division. This provides a convenient means of presenting the average risk of occurrence, for if a given minimum temperature produces a specified damaging effect a still lower temperature makes that effect more certain. The higher divisions are thus inclusive of the lower, but as we step down in the scale of divisions we of course exclude the higher. Temperatures from 32° down are at intervals of 3°, so that the classification is within one degree of any desired temperature. For 25° we may note the data for 26° and for 24° we may note the data for 23°.

The time division is for periods of 10 days except that for 31-day months the last period is for 11 days. The last period in February is from the 21st to the close of the month. For the purposes of this paper no worthwhile advantage can be secured by shorter divisions than ten days, as irregularities are constantly occurring in the curve of seasonal change, causing very slight difference in risk between the first part of a ten-day period and the latter part of the same period. The ten-day divisions are carried through the winter months, though only slight variation is to be expected from December 21st to January 31st. On the whole, January 1st to 10th has been the coldest 10-day period in the last 40 years. Averages for the second decade of February are influenced by the outstanding, abnormally cold weather of this period in 1899 and 1905.

Six tables of data are presented. Table 1 gives the lowest temperatures at the selected stations in a 40-year record by 10-day periods, with year of occurrence. Table 2 is a 40-year record of the "average interval", for the given temperatures or lower, ex-

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THE
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Reginald Dykers, Editor

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pressed in percentages because it is more convenient, in tabular form, to say that a certain temperature, or lower, occurred, for example, in 20 per cent of the years covered by the record than to say it occurred, on the average, in one year out of five.

In a ten-day period the distribution of temperatures through the years may vary considerably. An instance of fairly even distribution is found, for example, at Cheneyville, in the period November 11-20, with 26°, or lower, occurring once in the first ten years, thrice in the second ten years, and twice in the third and also in the last ten years.

An instance of irregular distribution is found for the temperature of 23°, or lower, at Cinclare and Baton Rouge in the period December 11-20, with one occurrence in the first six years, none in the next 27 years, and 3 in the last 7 years.

In preparing the data for Table 2 the number of days on which the temperature named occurred in any ten-day period might be more than one but no year could count more than one. The average number of occurrences, or days, with a given temperature is shown in Table 4, prepared for only the 20-year record ending in 1934. The last 20 years of the 40-year record were characterized by warmer weather in February and colder weather in March than the preceding 20 years. When allowance is made for this fact, the data in Table 4 serve very well for average number of days with the temperatures named in the specified periods.

Table 3 shows by means of percentages the increase in probability of colder weather from one ten-day period to another as we proceed from October to midwinter and the decreasing probability of cold weather as we proceed from midwinter to April. This information, as well as that in Table 2, was obtained from a tabulation of the lowest temperatures, by stations, for each ten-day period of each year of the 40-year record. It is impracticable to reproduce here the detailed chronological record of ten-day minima for all the stations; but in order that an opportunity may be given for the examination of the distribution of minimum tempepratures through the years, we give in Table 5 the record for Cinclare and Baton Rouge, representative of temperatures in the farming areas of East and West Baton Rouge Parishes.

The duration of cold periods, in days, as defined by stated temperatures, is significant with reference to effects on sugar cane and other crops. Of even more importance is the duration in hours of a damaging temperature, usually covering part of the night and part of the following morning, maximum temperatures below 32° being rare in this region.

A discussion of the duration of temperatures below selected temperatures will have to await an examination of thermograph records from the fields but the duration in days has been investigated for certain stations and is summarized in Table 6 for Grand Coteau. It should be noted that when we speak of the duration in days, in this investigation, we have reference only to the record of minimum temperatures on successive nights (when the cold period lasts more than one night). During the day, in most cases, the temperature rises well above the stated temperature. If only one night has the specified temperature, or lower, it is given a duration of one day.

Without attempting to comment at length upon the tables, which are designed to tell their own story, we note from an examination of Table 2 that temperatures of 29° or lower are so extremely infrequent in the greater part of the sugar region before November 11th that the probability of occurrence up to that time may be ignored, except when warnings of such temperatures are issued. But in the next ten-day period, November 11 to 20, they have occurred, on the average, in about one year in four at Baton Rouge. For most parts of the sugar region in the last third of December they occur in about one year in two.

The temperature of 26°, or lower, in the period November 11-20, occurs at Baton Rouge in 12 per cent of the years. Some of the sugar cane is usually standing in January, when temperatures of 26° or lower occur in the greater part of the sugar region in 28 to 45% of the years in the first third of the month, and 23° or lower in the same period in 15 to 20% of the years.

Table 3 usefully supplements Table 2 because it takes account of the entire periods previous to or after specified dates. In Table 3 we find that 26° or lower occurred at Baton Rouge before December 1st in 28 per cent of the years and before January 1st in 70 per cent of the years.

For compilations of data enabling us to present the tabular matter in this article acknowledgment is due to students of Newcomb College, Loyola University, and the New Orleans Normal School, for part-time work at the Weather Bureau Office in New Orleans, under Student Aid Extension, and later, the National Youth Administration of the Works Progress Administration.

TABLE 1.
LOWEST TEMPERATURES BY TEN-DAY PERIODS, OCTOBER TO APRIL
(From the 40-year records, 1896-1935)

| | Oct 1-10 | Oct 11-20 | Oct 21-31 | Nov 1-10 | Nov 11-20 | Nov 21-30 | Dec 1-10 | Dec 11-20 | Dec 21-31 | Jan 1-10 | Jan 11-20 | Jan 21-31 | Feb 1-10 | Feb 11-20 | Feb 21-29 | Mar 1-10 | Mar 11-20 | Mar 21-31 | Apr 1-10 | Apr 11-20 | Apr 21-30 | Annual Lowest |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cheneyville | 33 | 30 | 24 | 25 | 18 | 20 | 12 | 15 | 8 | 12 | 9 | 12 | 11 | 3* | 23 | 25 | 25 | 24 | 32 | 35 | 33 | 3* |
| Year | '15 | '17 | '10 | '96 '12 '17 | '03 | '03 '11 | '98 | '01 | '29 | '24 | '18 | '30 | '33 | '99 | '35 | '17 '20 32 | '23 | '15 | '15 | '00 '18 | '10 | 1899 |
| Grand Coteau | 39 | 36 | 30 | 29 | 22 | 21 | 19 | 19 | 15 | 16 | 10 | 16 | 18 | 2 | 26 | 24 | 24 | 27 | 33 | 38 | 34 | 2 |
| Year | '17 | '17 | '17 | '99 | '03 | '11 | '17 | '01 | '17 | '11 | '18 | '05 | '33 | '99 | '35 | '17 | '23 | '15 | '15 | '13 '18 '28 | '10 | 1899 |
| Cinclare and Baton Rouge† | 37 | 33 | 28 | 28 | 22 | 22 | 19 | 16 | 15 | 15 | 11 | 17 | 17 | 2 | 22 | 25 | 27 | 29 | 30 | 35 | 40 | 2 |
| Year | '17 | '07 | '17 | '12 | '16 | '11 | '17 | '01 | '17 | '24 | '18 | '05 | '33 | '99 | '35 | '20 | '23 | '15 | '15 | '18 | '28 | 1899 |
| Donaldsonville | 41 | 40 | 33 | 31 | 25 | 25 | 23 | 20 | 15 | 16 | 13 | 18 | 18 | 3 | 25 | 27 | 29 | 30 | 33 | 37 | 40 | 3 |
| Year | '17 | '17 '25 | '17 | '99 | '03 | '11 | '17 | '29 | '17 | '24 | '18 | '05 | '33 | '99 | '14 | '17 | '34 | '15 | '15 | '18 | '20 | 1899 |
| Abbeville | 38 | 35 | 30 | 31 | 22 | 22 | 20 | 18 | 17 | 15 | 12 | 19 | 19 | 5 | 25 | 27 | 28 | 26 | 33 | 38* | 36 | 5 |
| Year | '24 | '17 | '10 | '23 | '03 | '11 | '17 | '01 | '17 | '24 | '18 | '05 '35 | '33 | '99 | '01 | '32 | '23 | '15 | '15 | '21 | '10 | 1899 |
| Franklin | 40 | 41 | 31 | 31 | 25 | 23 | 19 | 20 | 18 | 18 | 13 | 20 | 20 | 8 | 26 | 28 | 29 | 27 | 33 | 40 | 41 | 8 |
| | '17 | '03 '17 | '17 | '99 | '16 | '11 | '17 | '01 | '17 | '24 | '18 | '05 | '99 | '99 | '01 '14 | '17 '32 | '96 | '15 | '15 | '18 | '28 '31 | 1899 |
| Houma | 40 | 37 | 30 | 28 | 24 | 21 | 21 | 19 | 15 | 16 | 14 | 17 | 20 | 5 | 24 | 26 | 29 | 26 | 28 | 35 | 38 | 5 |
| Year | '17 '32 | '17 | '10 '17 | '17 | '16 | '11 | '03 | '01 '34 | '17 | '24 | '18 | '05 | '33 | '99 | '35 | '17 '32 | '32 | '15 | '15 | '18 | '28 | 1899 |
| New Orleans-2, Audubon Park | 40 | 42 | 35 | 35 | 28 | 28 | 22 | 22 | 18 | 18 | 17 | 22 | 19 | 6 | 26 | 26 | 30 | 29 | 32 | 39 | 39 | 6 |
| Year | '21 | '17 | '10 '17 | '13 '17 | '03 '20 | '11 | '17 | '29 | '17 | '24 | '18 | '30 | '33 | '99 | '14 | '32 | '34 | '14 | '15 | '18 | '28 | 1899 |

†Cinclare record used for the period 1911 to 1933, inclusive, during much of which time the thermometer shelter at Baton Rouge was in town and on a slope, causing higher minimum thermometer readings than in neighboring rural locations. The remainder of the 40-year record is for Baton Rouge. *Interpolated.

TABLE 2.
PER CENT OF THE YEARS OF RECORD HAVING THE TEMPERATURES NAMED, OR LOWER, IN THE GIVEN TEN-DAY PERIODS. (FROM THE 40-YEAR RECORD, 1896-1935)

WITH MINIMUM OF 37° OR LOWER

| Stations | Oct 1-10 | Oct 11-20 | Oct 21-31 | Nov 1-10 | Nov 11-20 | Nov 21-30 | Dec 1-10 | Dec 11-20 | Dec 21-31 | Jan 1-10 | Jan 11-20 | Jan 21-31 | Feb 1-10 | Feb 11-20 | Feb 21-29 | Mar 1-10 | Mar 11-20 | Mar 21-31 | Apr 1-10 | Apr 11-20 | Apr 21-30 | For the Winter |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cheneyville | 8 | 25 | 52 | 60 | 82 | 85 | 92 | 90 | 100 | 95 | 88 | 90 | 90 | 90 | 78 | 60 | 65 | 45 | 35 | 12 | 5 | 100 |
| Grand Coteau | 0 | 2 | 25 | 38 | 68 | 72 | 80 | 85 | 90 | 90 | 78 | 85 | 82 | 82 | 62 | 60 | 48 | 32 | 15 | 0 | 2 | 100 |
| Cinclare and Baton Rouge | 2 | 8 | 28 | 45 | 78 | 80 | 92 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 82 | 85 | 90 | 88 | 62 | 62 | 48 | 42 | 20 | 5 | 0 | 100 |
| Donaldsonville | 0 | 0 | 8 | 22 | 60 | 60 | 80 | 85 | 92 | 95 | 78 | 82 | 85 | 88 | 68 | 50 | 45 | 25 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 100 |
| Abbeville | 0 | 2 | 22 | 28 | 60 | 70 | 82 | 90 | 85 | 90 | 78 | 85 | 85 | 82 | 55 | 55 | 40 | 32 | 12 | 0 | 2 | 100 |
| Franklin | 0 | 0 | 18 | 25 | 60 | 60 | 82 | 90 | 88 | 95 | 70 | 80 | 75 | 80 | 60 | 55 | 40 | 25 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| Houma | 0 | 2 | 28 | 35 | 70 | 70 | 88 | 78 | 90 | 92 | 78 | 78 | 80 | 80 | 68 | 55 | 48 | 28 | 20 | 5 | 0 | 100 |
| New Orleans-2, Audubon Park | 0 | 0 | 10 | 20 | 42 | 58 | 82 | 70 | 88 | 88 | 85 | 80 | 88 | 78 | 62 | 35 | 35 | 8 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 100 |

WITH MINIMUM OF 32° OR LOWER

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cheneyville | 0 | 2 | 25 | 35 | 70 | 60 | 75 | 78 | 88 | 95 | 72 | 72 | 80 | 70 | 48 | 42 | 35 | 15 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| Grand Coteau | 0 | 0 | 5 | 8 | 42 | 42 | 58 | 60 | 72 | 60 | 58 | 55 | 55 | 58 | 28 | 30 | 18 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| Cinclare and Baton Rouge | 0 | 0 | 8 | 18 | 45 | 52 | 70 | 78 | 80 | 82 | 68 | 68 | 70 | 70 | 40 | 32 | 25 | 10 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| Donaldsonville | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 28 | 32 | 52 | 50 | 68 | 72 | 55 | 62 | 52 | 65 | 30 | 28 | 10 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| Abbeville | 0 | 0 | 10 | 10 | 30 | 45 | 58 | 60 | 72 | 68 | 58 | 65 | 58 | 50 | 32 | 30 | 18 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| Franklin | 0 | 0 | 2 | 8 | 25 | 25 | 50 | 50 | 65 | 55 | 58 | 60 | 52 | 52 | 25 | 25 | 15 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| Houma | 0 | 0 | 10 | 12 | 42 | 35 | 60 | 55 | 78 | 62 | 60 | 62 | 48 | 60 | 35 | 30 | 18 | 8 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| New Orleans-2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 18 | 20 | 42 | 40 | 60 | 58 | 45 | 50 | 42 | 48 | 22 | 15 | 12 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 100 |

WITH MINIMUM OF 29° OR LOWER

| | Oct 11-20 | Oct 21-31 | Nov 1-10 | Nov 11-20 | Nov -21 30 | Dec 1-10 | Dec 11-20 | Dec 21-31 | Jan 1-10 | Jan 11-20 | Jan 21-31 | Feb 1-10 | Feb 11-20 | Feb 21-29 | Mar 1-10 | Mar 11-20 | Mar 21-31 | Apr 1-10 | Apr 11-20 | Apr 21-30 | For the Winter |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cheneyville | 0 | 10 | 18 | 45 | 40 | 60 | 60 | 60 | 75 | 55 | 55 | 50 | 52 | 20 | 30 | 8 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| Grand Coteau | 0 | 0 | 5 | 25 | 20 | 38 | 38 | 48 | 45 | 35 | 45 | 38 | 40 | 12 | 10 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 98 |
| Cinclare and Baton Rouge | 0 | 2 | 8 | 28 | 35 | 45 | 45 | 62 | 62 | 50 | 45 | 32 | 40 | 25 | 15 | 12 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| Donaldsonville | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 8 | 28 | 32 | 45 | 55 | 35 | 42 | 28 | 28 | 10 | 8 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 92 |
| Abbeville | 0 | 0 | 0 | 18 | 12 | 32 | 38 | 50 | 52 | 32 | 42 | 28 | 30 | 15 | 12 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| Franklin | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 8 | 25 | 28 | 38 | 48 | 32 | 35 | 32 | 32 | 10 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 98 |
| Houma | 0 | 0 | 2 | 22 | 20 | 30 | 30 | 45 | 50 | 30 | 35 | 28 | 32 | 10 | 12 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| New Orleans No. 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 8 | 22 | 25 | 28 | 38 | 22 | 25 | 20 | 20 | 5 | 10 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 95 |

(Continued on following page)

TABLE 2.—Continued

PER CENT OF THE YEARS OF RECORD HAVING THE TEMPERATURES NAMED, OR LOWER, IN THE GIVEN TEN-DAY PERIODS. (FROM THE 40-YEAR RECORD, 1896-1935)

WITH MINIMUM OF 26° OR LOWER

| Stations | Oct 11-20 | Oct 21-31 | Nov 1-10 | Nov 11-20 | Nov 21-30 | Dec 1-10 | Dec 11-20 | Dec 21-31 | Jan 1-10 | Jan 11-20 | Jan 21-31 | Feb 1-10 | Feb 11-20 | Feb 21-29 | Mar 1-10 | Mar 11-20 | Mar 21-31 | Apr 1-10 | Apr 11-20 | Apr 21-30 | For the Winter |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cheneyville | 0 | 5 | 10 | 20 | 30 | 48 | 42 | 45 | 60 | 42 | 38 | 38 | 30 | 8 | 10 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 92 |
| Grand Coteau | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 8 | 20 | 25 | 30 | 32 | 18 | 25 | 18 | 20 | 2 | 8 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 92 |
| Cinclare and Baton Rouge | 0 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 18 | 18 | 25 | 38 | 45 | 25 | 30 | 22 | 20 | 12 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 95 |
| Donaldsonville | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 18 | 18 | 25 | 28 | 15 | 22 | 18 | 12 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 82 |
| Abbeville | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 5 | 15 | 25 | 25 | 35 | 15 | 25 | 12 | 15 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 78 |
| Franklin | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 12 | 10 | 18 | 28 | 18 | 15 | 10 | 12 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 68 |
| Houma | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 5 | 15 | 18 | 15 | 35 | 18 | 22 | 10 | 15 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 78 |
| New Orleans No. 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 10 | 18 | 22 | 12 | 15 | 10 | 8 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 60 |

WITH MINIMUM OF 23° OR LOWER

| | Nov 1-10 | Nov 11-20 | Nov 21-30 | Dec 1-10 | Dec 11-20 | Dec 21-31 | Jan 1-10 | Jan 11-20 | Jan 21-31 | Feb 1-10 | Feb 11-20 | Feb 21-29 | For the Winter |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cheneyville | 0 | 12 | 10 | 30 | 22 | 20 | 32 | 18 | 25 | 12 | 15 | 2 | 72 |
| Grand Coteau | 0 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 12 | 18 | 20 | 10 | 20 | 8 | 12 | 0 | 50 |
| Cinclare and Baton Rouge | 0 | 5 | 2 | 10 | 10 | 18 | 20 | 18 | 20 | 12 | 15 | 2 | 65 |
| Donaldsonville | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 15 | 12 | 15 | 8 | 10 | 0 | 50 |
| Abbeville | 0 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 8 | 10 | 15 | 10 | 15 | 10 | 8 | 0 | 50 |
| Franklin | 0 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 5 | 8 | 15 | 10 | 15 | 10 | 8 | 0 | 48 |
| Houma | 0 | 0 | 2 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 18 | 10 | 15 | 8 | 8 | 0 | 50 |
| New Orleans No. 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 8 | 10 | 12 | 10 | 2 | 5 | 0 | 38 |

WITH MINIMUM OF 20° OR LOWER

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cheneyville | 0 | 5 | 5 | 8 | 10 | 10 | 22 | 8 | 12 | 10 | 8 | 0 | 50 |
| Grand Coteau | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 8 | 5 | 8 | 0 | 35 |
| Cinclare and Baton Rouge | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 15 | 10 | 12 | 10 | 10 | 0 | 48 |
| Donaldsonville | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 2 | 8 | 0 | 32 |
| Abbeville | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 32 |
| Franklin | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 5 | 0 | 20 |
| Houma | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 5 | 10 | 8 | 8 | 2 | 8 | 0 | 35 |
| New Orleans No. 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 8 | 5 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 0 | 20 |

WITH MINIMUM OF 17° OR LOWER

| Stations | Nov 1-10 | Nov 11-20 | Nov 21-30 | Dec 1-10 | Dec 11-20 | Dec 21-31 | Jan 1-10 | Jan 11-20 | Jan 21-31 | Feb 1-10 | Feb 11-20 | Feb 21-29 | For the Winter |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cheneyville | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 8 | 5 | 8 | 5 | 8 | 0 | 30 |
| Grand Coteau | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 8 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 18 |
| Cinclare and Baton Rouge | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 8 | 8 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 0 | 25 |
| Donaldsonville | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 8 |
| Abbeville | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 12 |
| Franklin | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 5 |
| Houma | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 10 |
| New Orleans No. 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 5 |

WITH MINIMUM OF 14° OR LOWER

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cheneyville | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 0 | 15 |
| Grand Coteau | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 8 |
| Cinclare and Baton Rouge | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 5 |
| Donaldsonville | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 5 |
| Abbeville | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 5 |
| Franklin | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 5 |
| Houma | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 5 |
| New Orleans No. 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 |

**Explanatory Note:** The average risk of occurrence of the temperatures named, or lower, occurring within the given periods of 10 or 11 days, is shown by figures giving the percentage of 40 years in which the temperatures named, or lower, occurred one or more times within the 10 or 11-day period. For example, the figure 25, representing percentage at Cheneyville for the period Jan. 21-31, in the table for 23° or lower, indicates that that temperature occurred in 10 years out of 40 or in one year out of 4.

TABLE 3.

OCCURRENCE OF SELECTED MINIMUM TEMPERATURES, OR LOWER, BEFORE AND AFTER GIVEN DATES. FROM 40-YEAR RECORD ENDING IN 1935

| Stations | Per cent of the years in which temperature of 37° or lower occurred BEFORE: | | | | | | | | | | Per cent of the years in which temperature of 37° or lower occurred AFTER: | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Oct 11 | Oct 21 | Nov 1 | Nov 11 | Nov 21 | Dec 1 | Dec 11 | Dec 21 | Jan 1 | Jan 11 | Jan 31 | Feb 10 | Feb 20 | Feb 29 | Mar 10 | Mar 20 | Mar 31 | Apr 10 | Apr 20 |
| Cheneyville | 8 | 28 | 62 | 80 | 95 | 100 | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | 100 | 90 | 82 | 70 | 48 | 18 | 5 |
| Grand Coteau | None | 2 | 25 | 45 | 82 | 90 | 98 | 98 | 98 | 100 | 100 | 95 | 95 | 82 | 60 | 45 | 18 | 2 | 2 |
| Cinclare and Baton Rouge | 2 | 8 | 30 | 55 | 90 | 100 | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | 100 | 85 | 65 | 55 | 22 | 5 | None |
| Donaldsonville | ----- | None | 8 | 25 | 75 | 92 | 95 | 95 | 98 | 100 | ----- | 100 | 95 | 78 | 52 | 25 | 8 | 2 | None |
| Abbeville | None | 2 | 22 | 38 | 78 | 88 | 95 | 98 | 98 | 100 | 100 | 95 | 95 | 78 | 55 | 42 | 15 | 2 | 2 |
| Franklin | ----- | None | 18 | 32 | 75 | 82 | 98 | 98 | 98 | 100 | 100 | 95 | 92 | 72 | 50 | 30 | 10 | None | ----- |
| Houma | None | 2 | 28 | 48 | 85 | 95 | 100 | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | 100 | 82 | 65 | 42 | 22 | 5 | None |
| New Orleans-2, Audubon Park | ----- | None | 10 | 22 | 55 | 72 | 92 | 95 | 98 | 100 | 100 | 95 | 85 | 60 | 38 | 8 | 2 | None | ----- |

(Continued on following page)

TABLE 3.—Continued

OCCURRENCE OF SELECTED MINIMUM TEMPERATURES, OR LOWER, BEFORE AND AFTER GIVEN DATES. FROM 40-YEAR RECORD ENDING IN 1935

| | Per Cent of the years in which temperature of 32° or lower occurred BEFORE: | | | | | | | | | | Per cent of the years in which temperature of 32° or lower occurred AFTER: | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Oct 11 | Oct 21 | Nov 1 | Nov 11 | Nov 21 | Dec 1 | Dec 11 | Dec 21 | Jan 1 | Jan 11 | Jan 10 | Jan 20 | Jan 31 | Feb 10 | Feb 20 | Feb 29 | Mar 10 | Mar 20 | Mar 31 | Apr 10 |
| Cheneyville | None | 2 | 25 | 42 | 82 | 92 | 100 | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | 100 | 95 | 88 | 65 | 45 | 15 | 2 | None |
| Grand Coteau | ---- | None | 5 | 10 | 50 | 68 | 88 | 90 | 92 | 95 | 92 | 88 | 85 | 82 | 62 | 45 | 22 | 5 | None | ---- |
| Cinclare and Baton Rouge | ---- | None | 8 | 20 | 65 | 80 | 98 | 98 | 98 | 98 | ---- | 100 | 98 | 90 | 82 | 55 | 28 | 10 | 2 | None |
| Donaldsonville | ---- | ---- | None | 2 | 30 | 55 | 78 | 80 | 82 | 90 | 98 | 92 | 85 | 80 | 52 | 38 | 15 | 5 | None | ---- |
| Abbeville | ---- | None | 10 | 18 | 45 | 68 | 85 | 88 | 90 | 92 | 100 | 95 | 92 | 82 | 68 | 45 | 20 | 2 | None | ---- |
| Franklin | ---- | None | 2 | 8 | 32 | 50 | 72 | 85 | 90 | 90 | 98 | 92 | 92 | 80 | 55 | 40 | 20 | 8 | None | ---- |
| Houma | ---- | None | 10 | 20 | 55 | 70 | 90 | 92 | 92 | 98 | 100 | 98 | 95 | 90 | 65 | 45 | 20 | 8 | 2 | None |
| New Orleans-2, Audubon Park | ---- | ---- | ---- | None | 18 | 32 | 58 | 68 | 82 | 90 | 92 | 90 | 78 | 72 | 38 | 28 | 15 | 5 | 2 | None |

| | Per cent of the years in which temperature of 29° or lower occurred BEFORE: | | | | | | | | | | Per cent of the years in which temperature of 29° or lower occurred AFTER: | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Oct 21 | Nov 1 | Nov 11 | Nov 21 | Dec 1 | Dec 11 | Dec 21 | Jan 1 | Jan 11 | Jan 21 | Jan 10 | Jan 20 | Jan 31 | Feb 10 | Feb 20 | Feb 29 | Mar 10 | Mar 20 | Mar 31 | Apr 10 |
| Cheneyville | None | 10 | 25 | 62 | 75 | 88 | 88 | 88 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 90 | 85 | 80 | 52 | 38 | 10 | 2 | None | ---- |
| Grand Coteau | ---- | None | 5 | 30 | 42 | 60 | 72 | 80 | 88 | 88 | 82 | 80 | 65 | 60 | 25 | 15 | 8 | 2 | None | ---- |
| Cinclare and Baton Rouge | None | 2 | 8 | 38 | 55 | 70 | 80 | 85 | 90 | 90 | 95 | 85 | 72 | 65 | 40 | 28 | 15 | 2 | None | ---- |
| Donaldsonville | ---- | ---- | None | 8 | 10 | 30 | 50 | 65 | 78 | 85 | 80 | 75 | 60 | 48 | 18 | 10 | 2 | None | ---- | ---- |
| Abbeville | ---- | ---- | None | 18 | 28 | 48 | 62 | 75 | 85 | 88 | 85 | 80 | 65 | 58 | 32 | 18 | 8 | 2 | None | ---- |
| Franklin | ---- | ---- | None | 10 | 15 | 32 | 50 | 60 | 78 | 85 | 85 | 78 | 62 | 50 | 20 | 10 | 5 | 2 | None | ---- |
| Houma | ---- | None | 2 | 25 | 38 | 58 | 65 | 75 | 85 | 88 | 82 | 80 | 72 | 55 | 22 | 15 | 5 | 2 | 2 | None |
| New Orleans-2, Audubon Park | ---- | ---- | None | 5 | 12 | 28 | 42 | 58 | 72 | 75 | 70 | 60 | 45 | 32 | 12 | 12 | 2 | 2 | None | ---- |

| | Per cent of the years in which temperature of 26° or lower occurred BEFORE | | | | | | | | | | Percent of the years in which temperature of 26° or lower occurred AFTER: | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Oct 21 | Nov 1 | Nov 11 | Nov 21 | Dec 1 | Dec 11 | Dec 21 | Jan 1 | Jan 11 | Jan 21 | Jan 10 | Jan 20 | Jan 31 | Feb 10 | Feb 20 | Feb 29 | Mar 10 | Mar 20 | Mar 31 |
| Cheneyville | None | 5 | 12 | 30 | 45 | 65 | 78 | 78 | 85 | 85 | 82 | 78 | 62 | 52 | 22 | 15 | 8 | 2 | None |
| Grand Coteau | ---- | ---- | None | 10 | 12 | 28 | 48 | 58 | 68 | 75 | 58 | 52 | 40 | 32 | 12 | 10 | 2 | None | ---- |
| Cinclare and Baton Rouge | ---- | ---- | None | 12 | 28 | 35 | 50 | 70 | 85 | 88 | 70 | 65 | 50 | 35 | 18 | 5 | None | ---- | ---- |
| Donaldsonville | ---- | ---- | None | 2 | 5 | 18 | 28 | 40 | 52 | 60 | 50 | 45 | 32 | 20 | 8 | None | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| Abbeville | ---- | ---- | None | 8 | 10 | 22 | 35 | 42 | 55 | 60 | 52 | 50 | 38 | 28 | 12 | 2 | 2 | 2 | None |
| Franklin | ---- | ---- | None | 2 | 5 | 15 | 25 | 35 | 50 | 60 | 42 | 38 | 25 | 18 | 5 | None | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| Houma | ---- | ---- | None | 5 | 8 | 18 | 30 | 40 | 58 | 60 | 52 | 48 | 32 | 28 | 12 | 8 | 2 | 2 | None |
| New Orleans-2, Audubon Park | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | None | 8 | 15 | 25 | 40 | 48 | 35 | 32 | 20 | 12 | 5 | 2 | None | ---- | ---- |

| | Per cent of the years in which temperature of 23° or lower occurred BEFORE: | | | | | | | | Per cent of the years in which temperature of 23° or lower occurred AFTER: | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Nov 11 | Nov 21 | Dec 1 | Dec 11 | Dec 21 | Jan 1 | Jan 11 | Jan 21 | Jan 10 | Jan 20 | Jan 31 | Feb 10 | Feb 20 | Feb 29 |
| Cheneyville | None | 12 | 20 | 38 | 50 | 58 | 62 | 68 | 48 | 40 | 28 | 18 | 2 | None |
| Grand Coteau | None | 5 | 8 | 10 | 20 | 30 | 42 | 45 | 35 | 32 | 18 | 12 | None | ---- |
| Cinclare and Baton Rouge | None | 5 | 8 | 18 | 28 | 38 | 52 | 55 | 38 | 35 | 25 | 18 | 2 | None |
| Donaldsonville | ---- | ---- | None | 2 | 8 | 10 | 25 | 32 | 32 | 28 | 15 | 10 | None | ---- |
| Abbeville | None | 2 | 5 | 8 | 15 | 18 | 32 | 35 | 30 | 28 | 15 | 8 | None | ---- |
| Franklin | ---- | None | 2 | 5 | 10 | 12 | 28 | 30 | 28 | 28 | 15 | 8 | None | ---- |
| Houma | ---- | None | 2 | 5 | 12 | 20 | 35 | 40 | 28 | 25 | 12 | 8 | None | ---- |
| New Orleans-2, Audubon Park | ---- | ---- | None | 2 | 10 | 12 | 22 | 28 | 22 | 12 | 8 | 5 | None | ---- |

| | Per Cent of the years in which temperature of 20° or lower occurred BEFORE: | | | | | | | | Per Cent of the years in which temperature of 20° or lower occurred AFTER: | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Nov 11 | Nov 21 | Dec 1 | Dec 11 | Dec 21 | Jan 1 | Jan 11 | Jan 21 | Jan 10 | Jan 20 | Jan 31 | Feb 10 | Feb 20 |
| Cheneyville | None | 5 | 8 | 15 | 22 | 25 | 42 | 45 | 28 | 22 | 15 | 8 | None |
| Grand Coteau | ---- | ---- | None | 2 | 5 | 10 | 20 | 28 | 20 | 15 | 10 | 8 | None |
| Cinclare and Baton Rouge | ---- | ---- | None | 2 | 8 | 12 | 28 | 32 | 30 | 25 | 18 | 10 | None |
| Donaldsonville | ---- | ---- | ---- | None | 5 | 10 | 18 | 22 | 20 | 15 | 10 | 8 | None |
| Abbeville | ---- | ---- | None | 2 | 5 | 5 | 15 | 22 | 20 | 15 | 8 | 5 | None |
| Franklin | ---- | ---- | None | 2 | 5 | 5 | 12 | 12 | 10 | 8 | 5 | 5 | None |
| Houma | ---- | ---- | ---- | None | 5 | 8 | 18 | 22 | 15 | 15 | 10 | 8 | None |
| New Orleans-2, Audubon Park | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | None | 2 | 10 | 12 | 12 | 8 | 8 | 5 | None |

TABLE 4

AVERAGE FREQUENCY OF TEMPERATURES NAMED, BY 10-DAY PERIODS, FROM 20-YEAR RECORD, 1914-1934

AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAYS WITH 37° OR LOWER

| | Oct 1-10 | Oct 11-20 | Oct 21-31 | Nov 1-10 | Nov 11-20 | Nov 21-30 | Feb 1-10 | Feb 11-20 | Feb 21-29 | Mar 1-10 | Mar 11-20 | Mar 21-31 | Apr 1-10 | Apr 11-20 | Apr 21-30 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cheneyville | .2 | .4 | 1.6 | 2.2 | 3.2 | 3.0 | 2.8 | 3.0 | 1.6 | 2.6 | 1.6 | .9 | .5 | .2 | 0 |
| Angola | * | .2 | .8 | 1.4 | 2.8 | 2.4 | 3.0 | 2.8 | 1.8 | 2.5 | 1.2 | .8 | .2 | .1 | 0 |
| Grand Coteau | 0 | * | .4 | .8 | 2.0 | 2.2 | 1.9 | 1.8 | 1.2 | 1.7 | 1.0 | .6 | .2 | 0 | 0 |
| Cinelare | * | .2 | .7 | 1.3 | 2.8 | 2.4 | 2.3 | 2.4 | 1.4 | 2.0 | 1.4 | .6 | .4 | * | 0 |
| Donaldsonville | 0 | 0 | .2 | .5 | 1.8 | 1.7 | 2.2 | 2.2 | 1.2 | 1.6 | 1.0 | .4 | .1 | * | 0 |
| Abbeville | 0 | * | .6 | .4 | 2.0 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.8 | .8 | 1.7 | 1.0 | .5 | .2 | 0 | 0 |
| Franklin | 0 | 0 | .2 | .6 | 1.7 | 1.6 | 1.9 | 1.6 | 1.0 | 1.5 | 1.0 | .6 | .2 | 0 | 0 |
| Sehriever | * | .1 | .8 | 1.5 | 2.6 | 2.2 | 2.2 | 2.0 | 1.0 | 2.0 | 1.0 | .8 | .2 | * | * |
| Houma | 0 | * | .6 | 1.0 | 2.2 | 1.6 | 1.8 | 1.7 | 1.2 | 1.8 | 1.1 | .8 | .2 | 0 | 0 |
| Reserve | 0 | 0 | .2 | .6 | 1.5 | 1.4 | 2.0 | 2.0 | .8 | 1.8 | 1.0 | .4 | .2 | 0 | 0 |
| New Orleans No. 2 | 0 | 0 | * | .3 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.8 | 1.9 | .9 | 1.4 | .8 | .2 | * | 0 | 0 |

AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAYS WITH 32° OR LOWER

| | Oct 1-10 | Oct 11-20 | Oct 21-31 | Nov 1-10 | Nov 11-20 | Nov 21-30 | Dec 1-10 | Dec 11-20 | Dec 21-31 | Jan 1-10 | Jan 11-20 | Jan 21-31 | Feb 1-10 | Feb 11-20 | Feb 21-29 | Mar 1-10 | Mar 11-20 | Mar 21-31 | Apr 1-10 | Apr 11-20 | Apr 21-30 | Average total for Winter |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cheneyville | 0 | .1 | .6 | .8 | 1.6 | 1.4 | 1.5 | 3.0 | 3.4 | 2.9 | 2.8 | 1.8 | 1.6 | 1.3 | .6 | 1.1 | .6 | .2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 25.3 |
| Angola | 0 | * | .2 | .4 | 1.2 | 1.0 | .9 | 2.4 | 2.6 | 2.4 | 2.6 | 1.8 | 1.4 | 1.4 | .6 | .8 | .4 | .2 | * | 0 | 0 | 20.4 |
| Grand Coteau | 0 | 0 | .1 | * | 1.0 | .9 | .8 | 1.8 | 2.2 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.2 | .7 | .6 | .2 | .8 | .4 | .2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 13.5 |
| Cinclare | 0 | 0 | .2 | .2 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 2.1 | 2.4 | 2.5 | 2.4 | 1.8 | 1.2 | 1.0 | .4 | .8 | .6 | .1 | * | 0 | 0 | 19.3 |
| Donaldsonville | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | .6 | .8 | .7 | 1.5 | 1.8 | 2.2 | 1.9 | 1.4 | .9 | .8 | .1 | .6 | .2 | .2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 13.7 |
| Abbeville | 0 | 0 | .1 | * | .8 | .6 | .9 | 1.6 | 2.1 | 1.5 | 1.8 | 1.2 | 1.0 | .7 | .2 | .6 | .4 | * | 0 | 0 | 0 | 13.6 |
| Franklin | 0 | 0 | 0 | * | .6 | .4 | .6 | 1.5 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.6 | 1.2 | .8 | .6 | .2 | .4 | .2 | .2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 11.9 |
| Sehriever | 0 | 0 | .2 | .4 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.6 | 2.2 | 2.1 | 2.1 | 1.6 | 1.0 | 1.2 | .3 | .9 | .2 | .2 | * | 0 | 0 | 17.5 |
| Houma | 0 | 0 | .1 | .1 | .9 | .8 | .9 | 1.0 | 1.7 | 1.9 | 1.8 | 1.4 | .7 | .8 | .2 | .8 | .5 | .1 | .1 | 0 | 0 | 13.8 |
| Reserve | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | .6 | .4 | .5 | 1.3 | 2.0 | 1.9 | 1.7 | 1.0 | 1.0 | .6 | .2 | .7 | .3 | .2 | .1 | 0 | 0 | 12.5 |
| New Orleans No. 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | .4 | .2 | .6 | 1.0 | 1.6 | 1.7 | 1.4 | .9 | .8 | .4 | .2 | .4 | .2 | * | * | 0 | 0 | 9.9 |

AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAYS WITH 29° OR LOWER

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cheneyville | 0 | 0 | .2 | .4 | 1.0 | 1.0 | .8 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 2.1 | 1.7 | 1.0 | .8 | .6 | .2 | .8 | .2 | .1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 14.5 |
| Angola | 0 | 0 | .1 | .2 | .6 | .6 | .6 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.8 | 1.1 | 1.0 | .5 | .1 | .4 | .2 | * | 0 | 0 | 0 | 11.7 |
| Grand Coteau | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | .4 | .2 | .4 | .9 | 1.1 | 1.6 | 1.0 | .7 | .6 | .2 | * | .4 | .2 | * | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7.8 |
| Cinelare | 0 | 0 | * | * | .6 | .6 | .7 | 1.2 | 1.4 | 1.7 | 1.4 | .9 | .7 | .4 | .1 | .3 | .1 | .1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10.3 |
| Donaldsonville | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | .1 | * | .4 | .7 | 1.0 | 1.3 | 1.0 | .8 | .6 | .2 | * | .2 | * | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6.4 |
| Abbeville | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | .3 | * | .4 | .7 | 1.2 | 1.2 | .7 | .6 | .6 | .2 | .1 | .2 | .1 | * | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6.4 |
| Franklin | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | .2 | 0 | .4 | .6 | .8 | 1.1 | .6 | .7 | .6 | .2 | * | .1 | 0 | .1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5.4 |
| Sehriever | 0 | 0 | * | .2 | .4 | .8 | .5 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 1.8 | 1.0 | .8 | .6 | .3 | 0 | .4 | .2 | .1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 9.2 |
| Houma | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | .3 | .2 | .4 | .5 | .8 | 1.2 | .9 | .6 | .4 | .2 | 0 | .2 | * | .1 | * | 0 | 0 | 5.9 |
| Reserve | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | .2 | .1 | .2 | .4 | .6 | 1.1 | .6 | .6 | .6 | .2 | 0 | .4 | .1 | .1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5.2 |
| New Orleans No. 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | * | * | .3 | .5 | .6 | 1.0 | .6 | .6 | .3 | .1 | 0 | .2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4.3 |

AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAYS WITH 26° OR LOWER

| | Oct 21-31 | Nov 1-10 | Nov 11-20 | Nov 21-30 | Dec 1-10 | Dec 11-20 | Dec 21-31 | Jan 1-10 | Jan 11-20 | Jan 21-31 | Feb 1-10 | Feb 11-20 | Feb 21-29 | Mar 1-10 | Mar 11-20 | Mar 21-31 | Average total for Winter |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cheneyville | .1 | .1 | .4 | .8 | .5 | 1.3 | 1.1 | 1.4 | 1.1 | .6 | .4 | .2 | 0 | .2 | .1 | 0 | 8.3 |
| Angola | 0 | 0 | .1 | .1 | .3 | .7 | .8 | .9 | .8 | .6 | .6 | .2 | * | .2 | .1 | 0 | 5.4 |
| Grand Coteau | 0 | 0 | .2 | 0 | .2 | .6 | .6 | .7 | .5 | .5 | .4 | * | 0 | .2 | * | 0 | 4.0 |
| Cinelare | 0 | 0 | .2 | .2 | .3 | .7 | .9 | 1.1 | .7 | .6 | .6 | * | 0 | .1 | 0 | 0 | 5.4 |
| Donaldsonville | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | .3 | .3 | .4 | .6 | .4 | .4 | .4 | 0 | 0 | * | 0 | 0 | 2.8 |
| Abbeville | 0 | 0 | * | 0 | .2 | .4 | .6 | .6 | .2 | .3 | .3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | * | 2.7 |
| Franklin | 0 | 0 | .1 | 0 | .2 | .2 | .3 | .7 | .2 | .2 | .2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2.2 |
| Sehriever | 0 | 0 | .2 | .4 | .3 | .4 | .6 | 1.1 | .4 | .4 | .4 | .2 | 0 | * | 0 | 0 | 4.4 |
| Houma | 0 | 0 | .1 | 0 | .2 | .2 | .4 | .8 | .4 | .3 | .4 | .1 | 0 | .1 | 0 | * | 3.0 |
| Reserve | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | .2 | .3 | .3 | .6 | .2 | .4 | .5 | .1 | 0 | 0 | * | 0 | 2.6 |
| New Orleans No. 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | .1 | .1 | .2 | .7 | .2 | .2 | .2 | 0 | 0 | * | 0 | 0 | 1.7 |

AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAYS WITH 23° OR LOWER

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cheneyville | 0 | .2 | .1 | .4 | .4 | .6 | .7 | .4 | .4 | .3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ----- | 3.5 |
| Angola | 0 | * | 0 | .2 | .3 | .3 | .6 | .3 | .4 | .4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | * | ----- | 2.6 |
| Grand Coteau | 0 | * | 0 | * | .2 | .2 | .4 | .2 | .2 | .2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ----- | 1.5 |
| Cinelare | 0 | * | 0 | .2 | .1 | .2 | .5 | .4 | .2 | .2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ----- | 1.8 |
| Donaldsonville | 0 | 0 | 0 | * | .1 | .2 | .2 | .2 | .1 | .2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ----- | 1.0 |
| Abbeville | 0 | 0 | 0 | * | * | .2 | .3 | .2 | .4 | .1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ----- | 1.3 |
| Franklin | 0 | 0 | 0 | .1 | * | .2 | .2 | .2 | .1 | .1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ----- | 0.9 |
| Sehriever | 0 | 0 | 0 | .2 | .1 | .2 | .5 | .2 | .2 | .2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ----- | 1.6 |
| Houma | 0 | 0 | 0 | .1 | * | .2 | .5 | .2 | .2 | .2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ----- | 1.4 |
| Reserve | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | * | .2 | .4 | .2 | * | * | * | 0 | 0 | 0 | ----- | 1.0 |
| New Orleans No. 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | * | * | .1 | .2 | .2 | .1 | * | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ----- | 0.7 |

(Continued on following page)

TABLE 4—Continued

AVERAGE FREQUENCY OF TEMPERATURES NAMED, BY 10-DAY PERIODS, FROM 20-YEAR RECORD, 1914-1934

| | Average Number of Days with 20° or Lower | | | | | | | | | Average Number of Days with 17° or Lower | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Dec 1-10 | Dec 11-20 | Dec 21-31 | Jan 1-10 | Jan 11-20 | Jan 21-31 | Feb 1-10 | Feb 11-20 | Feb 21-29 | Average total for Winter | Dec 1-10 | Dec 11-20 | Dec 21-31 | Jan 1-10 | Jan 11-20 | Jan 21-31 | Feb 1-10 | Feb 11-20 | Feb 21-29 | Average total for Winter |
| Cheneyville | .2 | .1 | .4 | .4 | .2 | .1 | .2 | 0 | 0 | 1.6 | 0 | 0 | .2 | .1 | .2 | 0 | .1 | 0 | 0 | 0.6 |
| Angola | 0 | * | .2 | .5 | .2 | .2 | .2 | 0 | 0 | 1.3 | 0 | 0 | .1 | .2 | .2 | 0 | * | 0 | 0 | 0.6 |
| Grand Coteau | * | 0 | .2 | .2 | .2 | * | .1 | 0 | 0 | 0.8 | 0 | 0 | * | .1 | .1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.2 |
| Cinclare | .1 | 0 | .2 | .3 | .2 | * | .1 | 0 | 0 | 1.0 | 0 | 0 | .1 | .2 | .2 | 0 | * | 0 | 0 | 0.6 |
| Donaldsonville | 0 | * | .2 | .2 | .2 | * | * | 0 | 0 | 0.8 | 0 | 0 | .1 | * | .1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.2 |
| Abbeville | * | 0 | * | .2 | .2 | * | * | 0 | 0 | 0.6 | 0 | 0 | * | .1 | * | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.2 |
| Franklin | * | 0 | .1 | .2 | .1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | .1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.1 |
| Schriever | .1 | * | .1 | .2 | .2 | .1 | * | 0 | 0 | 0.8 | 0 | 0 | * | .2 | .2 | 0 | * | 0 | 0 | 0.5 |
| Houma | * | 0 | .1 | .2 | .1 | 0 | * | 0 | 0 | 0.5 | 0 | 0 | * | .1 | .1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.2 |
| Reserve | 0 | 0 | .1 | .2 | .2 | 0 | * | 0 | 0 | 0.5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | .1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.1 |
| New Orleans No. 2 | 0 | 0 | * | .2 | .2 | 0 | * | 0 | 0 | 0.5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | * | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | * |

*Indicates less than 0.1.

**Explanatory note:** Averages obtained by counting all the occurrences of given temperatures, or lower, in each 10 or 11-day period in each year, adding these for 20-year totals, and dividing by 20. If the total number of occurrences in the average 10-year period be desired for any third of a month it may be obtained by ignoring the decimal points and considering the results as whole numbers.

TABLE 5

LOWEST TEMPERATURES BY TEN-DAY PERIODS IN CINCLARE-BATON ROUGE AREA IN SOUTHEASTERN LOUISIANA

| Year | Jan 1-10 | Jan 11-20 | Jan 21-31 | Feb 1-10 | Feb 11-20 | Feb 21-29 | Mar 1-10 | Mar 11-20 | Mar 21-31 | Apr 1-10 | Apr 11-20 | Apr 21-30 | Oct 1-10 | Oct 11-20 | Oct 21-31 | Nov 1-10 | Nov 11-20 | Nov 21-30 | Dec 1-10 | Dec 11-20 | Dec 21-31 | Annual Lowest | Date | Winter Lowest |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1896 | 20 | 34 | 28 | 30 | 28 | 35 | 37 | 34 | 35 | 36 | 61 | 62 | 53 | 45 | 50 | 30 | 40 | 30 | 30 | 34 | 28 | 20 | Jan. 4 | 20 |
| 1897 | 26 | 34 | 20 | 31 | 40 | 34 | 47 | 55 | 38 | 46 | 44 | 56 | 56 | 62 | 51 | 39 | 37 | 37 | 28 | 32 | 31 | 20 | Jan. 27 | 20 |
| 1898 | 22 | 36 | 37 | 30 | 43 | 29 | 34 | 55 | 44 | 38 | 46 | 48 | 68 | 43 | 32 | 34 | 42 | 29 | 27 | 24 | 28 | 22 | Jan. 2 | 22 |
| 1899 | 24 | 28 | 27 | 19 | 2 | 35 | 32 | 38 | 32 | 39 | 48 | 54 | 47 | 60 | 45 | 29 | 51 | 35 | 32 | 27 | 29 | 2 | Feb. 13 | 2 |
| 1900 | 20 | 50 | 26 | 27 | 20 | 30 | 34 | 36 | 40 | 38 | 40 | 58 | 52 | 52 | 52 | 37 | 31 | 32 | 32 | 34 | 31 | 20 | Jan. 3 | 20 |
| 1901 | 35 | 30 | 30 | 28 | 34 | 26 | 29 | 33 | 35 | 40 | 44 | 41 | 51 | 42 | 51 | 36 | 29 | 33 | 30 | 16 | 22 | 16 | Dec. 19 | 26 |
| 1902 | 29 | 28 | 38 | 33 | 31 | 32 | 41 | 39 | 42 | 39 | 44 | 58 | 45 | 44 | 41 | 50 | 46 | 35 | 30 | 31 | 24 | 24 | Dec. 28 | 16 |
| 1903 | 25 | 26 | 33 | 36 | 22 | 35 | 41 | 57 | 40 | 45 | 46 | 44 | 50 | 42 | 37 | 39 | 23 | 25 | 24 | 30 | 27 | 22 | Feb. 17 | 22 |
| 1904 | 26 | 29 | 21 | 32 | 32 | 39 | 34 | 40 | 38 | 41 | 45 | 49 | 62 | 53 | 43 | 44 | 32 | 36 | 38 | 27 | 18 | 18 | Dec. 28 | 21 |
| 1905 | 27 | 20 | 17 | 31 | 15 | 32 | 43 | 45 | 49 | 44 | 42 | 56 | 64 | 45 | 44 | 46 | 39 | 37 | 27* | 31* | 28 | 15 | Feb. 14 | 15 |
| 1906 | 28 | 37 | 27 | 27 | 33 | 33 | 40 | 32 | 32 | 38 | 50 | 56 | 47 | 39 | 36 | 49 | 29 | 36 | 37 | 31 | 23 | 23 | Dec. 26 | 27 |
| 1907 | 42 | 59 | 31 | 31 | 33 | 50 | 42 | 55 | 51 | 36 | 45 | 46 | 50 | 33 | 41 | 39 | 26 | 30 | 23 | 29 | 30 | 23 | Dec. 5 | 23 |
| 1908 | 29 | 23 | 22 | 24 | 25 | 25 | 47 | 41 | 34 | 43 | 54 | 42 | 41 | 39 | 36 | 36 | 24 | 41 | 26 | 31 | 26 | 22 | Jan. 24 | 22 |
| 1909 | 31 | 29 | 19 | 19 | 22 | 29 | 38 | 29 | 35 | 36 | 36 | 53 | 57 | 44 | 38 | 50 | 33 | 44 | 30 | 28 | 24 | 19 | Jan. 31 | 19 |
| 1910 | 24 | 31 | 32 | 31 | 20 | 29 | 51 | 38 | 57 | 51 | 50 | 42 | 56 | 56 | 30 | 32 | 36 | 29 | 23 | 30 | 29 | 20 | Feb. 18 | 20 |
| 1911 | 17 | 48 | 46 | 46 | 31 | 26 | 38 | 34 | 40 | 42 | 54 | 51 | 62 | 49 | 38 | 38 | 27 | 22 | 27 | 32 | 28 | 17 | Jan. 3 | 17 |
| 1912 | 24 | 16 | 30 | 22 | 30 | 30 | 36 | 36 | 36 | 44 | 53 | 53 | 58 | 58 | 43 | 28 | 31 | 26 | 36 | 34 | 30 | 16 | Jan. 12 | 16 |
| 1913 | 30 | 38 | 35 | 34 | 28 | 42 | 32 | 37 | 36 | 47 | 39 | 44 | 63 | 38 | 34 | 32 | 34 | 46 | 28 | 37 | 32 | 28 | Feb. 13† | 26 |
| 1914 | 24 | 32 | 27 | 28 | 32 | 25 | 33 | 28 | 30 | 39 | 48 | 57 | 61 | 45 | 38 | 38 | 27 | 38 | 33 | 24 | 26 | 24 | Jan. 6† | 24 |
| 1915 | 26 | 30 | 26 | 33 | 33 | 39 | 34 | 32 | 29 | 30 | 47 | 58 | 40 | 56 | 47 | 44 | 28 | 25 | 28 | 27 | 28 | 25 | Nov. 29 | 24 |
| 1916 | 38 | 24 | 40 | 24 | 28 | 37 | 35 | 32 | 38 | 37 | 54 | 42 | 46 | 36 | 38 | 43 | 22 | 28 | 28 | 26 | 26 | 22 | Nov. 15 | 24 |
| 1917 | 30 | 22 | 34 | 20 | 32 | 52 | 29 | 42 | 44 | 42 | 47 | 48 | 37 | 34 | 28 | 29 | 33 | 26 | 19 | 25 | 15 | 15 | Dec. 20 | 20 |
| 1918 | 24 | 11 | 23 | 30 | 44 | 40 | 54 | 50 | 39 | 38 | 35 | 43 | 50 | 56 | 44 | 38 | 35 | 35 | 29 | 31 | 25 | 11 | Jan. 11 | 11 |
| 1919 | 20 | 26 | 38 | 34 | 37 | 32 | 35 | 42 | 43 | 41 | 40 | 53 | 58 | 58 | 64 | 53 | 32 | 38 | 31 | 25 | 33 | 20 | Jan. 4 | 20 |
| 1920 | 27 | 40 | 36 | 39 | 32 | 31 | 25 | 40 | 42 | 36 | 43 | 45 | 42 | 47 | 35 | 38 | 25 | 32 | 31 | 35 | 27 | 25 | Nov. 17† | 25 |
| 1921 | 32 | 36 | 31 | 33 | 38 | 35 | 40 | 56 | 40 | 45 | 39 | 50 | 39 | 42 | 41 | 38 | 39 | 36 | 32 | 32 | 34 | 31 | Jan. 28 | 25 |
| 1922 | 30 | 31 | 30 | 30 | 31 | 51 | 27 | 42 | 40 | 48 | 44 | 49 | 45 | 45 | 47 | 43 | 49 | 32 | 46 | 36 | 34 | 27 | Mar. 4 | 27 |
| 1923 | 31 | 30 | 33 | 26 | 27 | 38 | 38 | 27 | 40 | 37 | 45 | 56 | 55 | 42 | 35 | 34 | 30 | 35 | 34 | 33 | 34 | 26 | Feb. 7 | 26 |
| 1924 | 15 | 29 | 24 | 26 | 37 | 33 | 33 | 31 | 37 | 38 | 44 | 47 | 42 | 50 | 40 | 48 | 37 | 26 | 38 | 32 | 28 | 15 | Jan. 6 | 15 |
| 1925 | 31 | 29 | 31 | 32 | 30 | 41 | 31 | 45 | 41 | 47 | 51 | 52 | 58 | 42 | 42 | 36 | 33 | 29 | 28 | 31 | 18 | 18 | Dec. 28 | 26 |
| 1926 | 35 | 27 | 29 | 37 | 30 | 35 | 35 | 32 | 37 | 35 | 41 | 49 | 55 | 60 | 41 | 33 | 28 | 41 | 35 | 29 | 30 | 27 | Jan. 11 | 18 |
| 1927 | 30 | 23 | 45 | 45 | 37 | 39 | 32 | 43 | 40 | 56 | 62 | 41 | 54 | 40 | 50 | 43 | 34 | 42 | 25 | 26 | 31 | 23 | Jan. 16 | 23 |
| 1928 | 17 | 35 | 32 | 42 | 28 | 30 | 46 | 36 | 40 | 41 | 39 | 40 | 64 | 49 | 42 | 33 | 33 | 27 | 22 | 31 | 25 | 17 | Jan. 2 | 17 |
| 1929 | 22 | 29 | 32 | 31 | 26 | 29 | 31 | 40 | 56 | 57 | 51 | 53 | 50 | 50 | 40 | 40 | 37 | 26 | 25 | 21 | 23 | 21 | Dec. 20 | 22 |
| 1930 | 33 | 17 | 19 | 34 | 29 | 50 | 30 | 41 | 33 | 47 | 48 | 52 | 50 | 47 | 34 | 30 | 48 | 27 | 33 | 25 | 24 | 17 | Jan. 19 | 17 |
| 1931 | 34 | 27 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 37 | 31 | 35 | 35 | 38 | 53 | 41 | 61 | 45 | 37 | 34 | 47 | 52 | 42 | 43 | 38 | 27 | Jan. 14 | 24 |
| 1932 | 33 | 38 | 34 | 32 | 53 | 42 | 26 | 29 | 37 | 41 | 43 | 55 | 39 | 41 | 41 | 36 | 28 | 29 | 33 | 22 | 42 | 22 | Dec. 17 | 26 |
| 1933 | 27 | 29 | 41 | 17 | 28 | 36 | 39 | 44 | 34 | 41 | 40 | 53 | 41 | 45 | 38 | 34 | 34 | 32 | 33 | 43 | 36 | 17 | Feb. 9 | 17 |
| 1934 | 25 | 30 | 25 | 32 | 28 | 27 | 35 | 28 | 35 | 48 | 43 | 41 | 52 | 54 | 45 | 41 | 32 | 35 | 30 | 19 | 37 | 19 | Dec. 12 | 25 |
| 1935 | 29 | 43 | 19 | 32 | 30 | 22 | 29 | 36 | 54 | 44 | 41 | 54 | 42 | 58 | 51 | 43 | 32 | 30 | 27 | 28 | 22 | 19 | Jan. 22 | 19 |
| Lowest Year | 15 '24 | 11 '18 | 17 '05 | 17 '33 | 2 '99 | 22 '35 | 25 '20 | 27 '23 | 29 '15 | 30 '15 | 35 '18 | 40 '28 | 37 '17 | 33 '07 | 28 '17 | 28 '12 | 22 '16 | 22 '11 | 19 '17 | 16 '01 | 15 '17 | 2 | Feb. 13 1899 | |

**Note:** Lowest for winter, in last column, is for winter, or period November to March, ending with year indicated on same line. Thus the first entry in this column is for the winter 1895-1896 and the last is for the winter 1934-1935.

Cinclare records are used for the period October, 1910, to December, 1933, and Baton Rouge records for the remainder of the Table.

*Interpolated. †Other dates also.

TABLE 6
DURATION OF COLD PERIODS AT GRAND COTEAU, LA., FROM 40-YEAR RECORD

| Temperature | Duration, etc. | Oct 21-31 | Nov 1-10 | Nov 11-20 | Nov 21-30 | Dec 1-10 | Dec 11-20 | Dec 21-31 | Jan 1-10 | Jan 11-20 | Jan 21-31 | Feb 1-10 | Feb 11-20 | Feb 21-29 | Mar 1-10 | Mar 11-20 | Mar 21-31 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 32 or lower | Number of cold periods | 2 | 3 | 20 | 22 | 27 | 26 | 40 | 33 | 32 | 27 | 30 | 25 | 11 | 16 | 10 | 3 |
| | Average duration, days | 2.0 | 2.0 | 1.6 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 2.2 | 1.9 | 2.3 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 1.9 | 2.2 | 1.6 | 1.6 | 1.2 | 1.0 |
| | Average low temperature | 30.5 | 29.7 | 30.5 | 28.9 | 23.7 | 27.6 | 23.2 | 26.1 | 27.2 | 27.1 | 26.8 | 26.0 | 29.6 | 29.8 | 27.2 | 30.0 |
| | Longest period, days | 3 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 8 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| | Year | 1917 | 1899 | 1908 | 1898* | 1898* | 1901 | 1909* | 1917 | 1918 | 1899 | 1912 | 1895 | 1911 | 1920 | 1913* | 1915 |
| 29 or lower | Number of cold periods | ----- | 2 | 10 | 10 | 14 | 20 | 18 | 22 | 22 | 21 | 19 | 17 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 1 |
| | Average duration, days | ----- | 1.5 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.7 | 2.6 | 1.5 | 1.8 | 1.9 | 2.1 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.2 | 1.0 |
| | Average low temperature | ----- | 28.5 | 27.1 | 27.5 | 25.6 | 22.5 | 25.2 | 23.9 | 25.5 | 26.8 | 24.9 | 23.9 | 27.3 | 26.6 | 26.5 | 27.0 |
| | Longest period, days | ----- | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| | Year | ----- | 1899 | 1916 | 1911 | 1899 | 1901* | 1929 | 1917 | 1905 | 1899 | 1912 | 1895 | 1914 | 1920 | 1923 | 1915 |
| 26 or lower | Number of cold periods | ----- | ----- | 3 | 2 | 7 | 15 | 11 | 13 | 8 | 11 | 9 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 1 | ----- |
| | Average duration, days | ----- | ----- | 1.3 | 1.5 | 1.1 | 1.5 | 1.4 | 1.9 | 2.4 | 1.6 | 1.9 | 2.2 | 1.0 | 1.3 | 1.0 | ----- |
| | Average low temperature | ----- | ----- | 23.7 | 23.5 | 24.1 | 23.4 | 21.9 | 21.9 | 20.5 | 25.2 | 21.6 | 18.9 | 26.0 | 25.3 | 24.0 | ----- |
| | Longest period, days | ----- | ----- | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | ----- |
| | Year | ----- | ----- | 1916 | 1911 | 1927 | 1914* | 1929 | 1928 | 1905 | 1897* | 1912 | 1895* | 1935 | 1917 | 1923 | ----- |
| 23 or lower | Number of cold periods | ----- | ----- | 2 | 1 | 1 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 4 | 7 | 5 | 6 | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | Average duration, days | ----- | ----- | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.4 | 1.3 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 1.3 | 1.8 | 1.8 | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | Average low temperature | ----- | ----- | 22.5 | 21.0 | 19.0 | 21.0 | 19.8 | 19.1 | 15.8 | 20.5 | 19.0 | 16.5 | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | Longest period, days | ----- | ----- | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 4 | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | Year | ----- | ----- | 1903* | 1911 | 1917 | 1901 | 1894 | 1911* | 1918 | 1897* | 1895 | 1899 | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| 20 or lower | Number of cold periods | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | 1 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 4 | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | Average duration, days | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.0 | 1.7 | 1.8 | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | Average low temperature | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | 19.0 | 19.5 | 17.8 | 17.5 | 15.8 | 17.5 | 16.7 | 13.8 | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | Longest period, days | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | Year | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | 1917 | 1901* | 1894* | 1924* | 1918* | 1930* | 1895* | 1899 | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| 17 or lower | Number of cold periods | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | Average duration, days | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | Average low temperature | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | 16.0 | 16.7 | 13.5 | 16.0 | 12.0 | 8.0 | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | Longest period, days | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | Year | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | 1894* | 1911* | 1918* | 1905 | 1895 | 1899 | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| 14 or lower | Number of cold periods | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | 1 | ----- | 1 | 2 | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | Average duration, days | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | 1.0 | ----- | 1.0 | 1.5 | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | Average low temperature | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | 10.0 | ----- | 12.0 | 8.0 | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | Longest period, days | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | 1 | ----- | 1 | 2 | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | Year | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | 1918 | ----- | 1895 | 1899 | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |

*Asterisk to right of year indicates more than one year of same duration.

**Explanatory note:** The duration of cold periods having the **minimum** temperatures named on one or more nights (**Successive** nights if more than one) is given in this Table. When a portion of a period with successive nights of the given temperature, or lower, overlaps into an adjoining 10-day division, it is assigned to the division having the greater part of the cold period, or if equal parts are in two divisions, the cold period is given to the period in which it begins.

The average low temperature is obtained as follows: The lowest temperature is found for each cold period and the sum of such temperatures, divided by the number of cold periods, gives the average low temperature.

# Excess Profits

Laplace, Louisiana, February 10, 1937.

*Editor Sugar Bulletin*:

In your issue of February 1st there appeared an interesting and highly timely article under the caption: "Excess Profits?" The writer, Mr. Edwin L. Dennis, strove by concrete illustrations to dislodge from the minds of the readers certain falsely founded notions, viz.; that there do exist tremendous profits in the sugar industry of Louisiana. Anyone who is at all familiar with any of the facts and conditions which have surrounded this industry for the past twelve years or more will unhesitatingly agree that in a vast majority of cases, by far, there has actually existed a serious deficit; much less, "excess profits".

Someone or some group is, no doubt, interested in planting the seed of false propaganda in the minds of the public with a view of inflicting injury upon an industry which has withstood the attacks and ravages of enemies, both man and beast, flood, storm, pests, disease, economic adversity and every other conceivable type of misfortune for the past century or more, and is today as deeply rooted and as firmly founded as any enterprise ever fostered by man. An industry that has proven its worth to Louisiana, one that has served as the back-bone of South Louisiana, particularly, in spite of all of the hardships and obstacles it has been compelled to endure and over-come. As a matter of fact, it offers the only ray of hope for the harnessing for the usage of man the thousands of acres of land of unsurpassed fertility of South Louisiana. It is the only Star of Louisiana's sky that offers opportunity and hope of advancement to its large number of unemployed. It is the only industry that has been able to survive and establish itself in spite of adversity and notwithstanding the bungling legislation that has been inflicted upon it time and again.

Given a vestige of governmental encouragement, placing it on a parity with benefits given other agricultural enterprises of the Nation, Louisiana's place in the rising sun of to-morrow is as secure as is the Statue of Liberty in the harbor of New York.

Mr. Dennis has, indeed, made a splendid contribution to the cause of an industry that is in dire need of leaders to carry its banner. How strange was Mr. Henry Wallace's statement, so far at variance with

the true facts in the case, and yet not a champion of the industry stood up to defend its status. Can any enterprise, no matter how meritorious, withstand the repeated onslaughts of misrepresentation with no defense, and yet not be inflicted with incalculable injury? Possibly good politics in the eyes of some, but not good business in the minds of many. Good politics and good business should differ but very little, if any.

Is not the time opportune for the men and women engaged in the sugar industry to manifest a little concern and a little self-assertedness? Is it not high time that the big dailies of this State, particularly of the cities of New Orleans and Baton Rouge; cities that are in a large measure dependent upon this industry for their sustenance, awaken from their long Rip Van Winkle slumber and do and say a little something to advance the cause of this big industry of Louisiana, besides, box-carring the calamities of the flood to the Nation and harping upon the modernization of our Federal Judiciary?

With the true essence and spirit of the Rooseveltian policies incorporated in the Nation's sugar program towards Louisiana, this section stands on the threshold of the greatest era of agricultural prosperity ever visited upon South Louisiana. The time is ripe for a manifestation and outright display of more concern and more interest on the part of the population of Louisiana's sugar area. Is it not probable that we too often lose many an opportunity to contact our Congressmen and Senators in our National Capitol to offer a word of concern and of encouragement for the attitude manifested by this group as a whole and the diligent and valiant service being rendered by a few in particular?

Let us hope that the next few months will bring to the fore other characters of Mr. Dennis' type and that eventually Louisiana will become sugar conscious and that men and women from one end of the sugar belt of Louisiana to the other, from country, village, town and city, will make a serious effort to bring about a realization of the phenomenal importance of this industry to the progress of Louisiana.

Yours for a real Louisiana Sugar Industry.

J. O. MONTEGUT.

## Washington Data

*(by C. J. Bourg)*

Even though the Secretary of Agriculture has not yet made known officially to Congress his recommendations for sugar legislation, it is no state secret that bills have been prepared on the subject. In fact the Secretary of Agriculture has suggested that the President might have a message for Congress with regard to an excise tax on sugar and the continuation of the sugar quota system.

The introduction of a bill by Senator John H. Overton of Louisiana has served to stimulate discussions of sugar and related subjects in the Congressional halls. As a result of these discussions, Senator Overton has presented a substitute bill containing certain correcting and clarifying amendments, in addition to a few new provisions. The most important change has to do with the continental quota, but the bill now provides for a minimum continental quota established at 29% of the consumption estimate. As the consumption estimate is increased so would the minimum quota.

The Senator still retains his maximum quota of 33-1/3% of the consumption estimate, and from year to year as long as the continental production does not exceed the maximum, the quota would be the available continental sugars as represented by actual production or 35% more than the effective inventories as of January 1st, whichever is the higher. The net result which Senator Overton seeks to obtain is that there would be no real quota restriction until continental production would exceed one-third of the consumption requirements which based upon the 1937 estimate of 6,682,670 tons would mean a continental quota of 2,205,281 tons. The substitute bill retains the ratio of supply of 74% for beets, 22% for Louisiana and 4% for Florida in case the continental production should exceed the maximum.

Senator Overton has also included a new Section 21 which authorizes the Secretary to make crop deficiency payments to producers of sugar beets and sugarcane for the purpose of preventing loss of income by such producers as a result of total or partial crop failure. It will be remembered that the Production Adjustment Contract contained a like provision which amounted to very acceptable protection against crop disasters. In view of the fact that the crop insurance program as outlined by the Secretary of Agriculture would not be available to producers of sugar beets and sugarcane, since there would be no occasion for storing continental sugar from year to year, Senator Overton thought that such a provision might bring about a practical application of crop insurance for the benefit of our growers.

The following tables show the effect of the Overton bill as applied to the consumption estimate of 1937, in one case computed on the basis of the maximum quota and in the other case computed on the basis of the minimum quota.

(Continued on page 10)

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## FLASH!

**Just as we go to press we are notified by the Cane Products Trade Association that the average price for cane settlements for the period Oct. 15th, 1936 to Feby. 25th, 1937, as arrived at by them is 3.66605 and that the Grower-Processor Committee has been supplied with this figure by the Cane Products Trade Assn. and has officially fixed the average price of raw sugar for the season at 3.66605 and the price of Standard Cane at 3.739.**

Assuming that Continental United States would receive the Minimum 29% of the 1937 Consumption Estimate:

| | |
|---|---|
| Consumption Estimate | 6,682,670 tons |
| 29% Consumption Estimate | 1,937,974 tons |
| Total Off-shore Quotas | 4,744,696 tons |

But the past year's production is estimated at 1,811,000 tons, so

| | |
|---|---|
| Continental Quota | 1,937,974 tons |
| Continental Production | 1,811,000 tons |
| To be reallocated under Section 4(c) | 126,974 tons |

PROPOSED CHANGES UNDER THE OVERTON BILL

| | Present 1937 Quota | First Revised 1937 Quota | Reallocation Sec. 4(c) | Final Revised Quota |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Hawaii | 976,685 | 966,020 | 68,375 | 1,034,395 |
| Puerto Rico | 831,508 | 822,256 | 58,192 | 880,448 |
| Virgin Is. | 5,462 | 5,694 | 406 | 6,100 |
| Philippine Is. | 1,035,742 | 1,023,905 | | 1,023,905 |
| Cuba | 1,922,423 | 1,900,725 | | 1,900,725 |
| Foreign | 26,610 | 26,096 | | 26,096 |
| Total Off-shore | 4,798,430 | 4,744,696 | 126,973 | 4,871,669* |
| Total Cont'al | 1,884,240 | 1,937,974 | (production) | 1,811,000 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 6,682,670 | 6,682,670 | | 6,682,670 |

*The above is exclusive of any reallocation of the Philippine quota and any increase in consumption.

Assuming that Continental United States would receive the Full 33-1/3% of the 1937 Consumption Estimate:

| | |
|---|---|
| Consumption Estimate | 6,682,670 tons |
| 33-1/3% for Continental Quota | 2,205,281 tons |
| Total Off-shore Quotas | 4,477,389 tons |

But the past year's production is estimated at 1,811,000 tons, so

| | |
|---|---|
| Continental Quota | 2,205,281 tons |
| Continental Production | 1,811,000 tons |
| To be reallocated under Section 4(c) | 394,281 tons |

PROPOSED CHANGES UNDER THE OVERTON BILL

| | Present 1937 Quota | Present Revised 1937 Quota | Reallocation Sec. 4(c) | Final Revised Quota |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Hawaii | 976,685 | 911,596 | 212,320 | 1,123,916 |
| Puerto Rico | 831,508 | 775,932 | 180,699 | 956,631 |
| Virgin Is. | 5,462 | 5,373 | 1,261 | 6,634 |
| Philippine Is. | 1,035,742 | 966,220 | | 966,220 |
| Cuba | 1,922,423 | 1,793,642 | | 1,793,642 |
| Foreign | 26,610 | 24,626 | | 24,626 |
| Total Off-shore | 4,798,430 | 4,477,389 | 394,281 | 4,871,670* |
| Total Cont'al | 1,884,240 | 2,205,281 | (production) | 1,811,000 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 6,682,670 | 6,682,670 | | 6,682,670 |

*The above is exclusive of any reallocation of the Philippine quota and any increase in consumption.

# Louisiana Made 383,514 Tons of Sugar from 1936 Cane Crop

The American Sugar Cane League officially reports, based on signed statements from every sugar factory in Louisiana, that 383,513.814 short tons of sugar (raw value) was produced in this State during the grinding campaign that began last October and terminated just about three weeks ago. That is the largest amount of sugar ever produced in Louisiana except in the year 1904, when a stable and reasonable tariff policy for several years in succession enabled the industry to reach a maximum of 398,194 short tons (not transmuted into raw value). To make this 383,513.814 tons of sugar 4,942,525 short tons of cane was passed through the mills.

The output, broken down into grades and qualities shows raws, 515,421,082 lbs.; clarifieds, 36,508,826 lbs.; turbinados, 25,321,985 lbs.; washed raws, 5,563,581 lbs.; granulated, 164,472,593 lbs.; string sugars (estimated) 19,739,561 lbs.; all expressed in raw values.

No complete data is yet at hand from factories, of which there are hundreds of small ones and about half a dozen fairly large ones, that make a specialty of syrup and produce nothing else. In the factories that also made sugar, however, the amount of syrup made was 2,078,011 gallons, calculated to contain 15,522,739 lbs. of sugar. The same factories produced 2,461,463 gallons of first molasses, calculated to contain 19,051,721 lbs. of sugar and 2,491,480 gallons of second molasses calculated to contain 17,639,675 lbs. of sugar. Blackstrap molasses was produced to the amount of 27,712,266 gallons.

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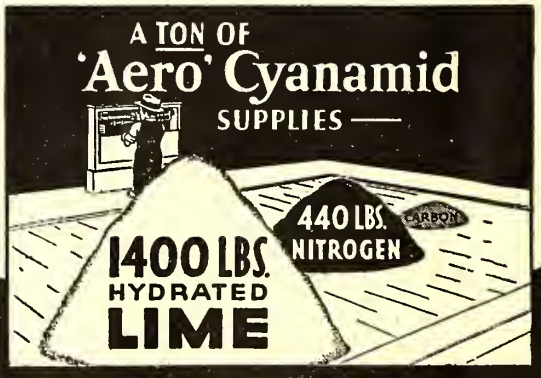


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THE
# SUGAR BULLETIN

Entered as second-class matter April 13, 1925, at the post office at New Orleans, La., under Act of March 6, 1879.

We stand for the encouragement of Home Industries as against Foreign Competition.

Vol. 15 NEW ORLEANS, LA., MARCH 15, 1937 No. 12

## Something Comes To Light

**We have received a letter from R. W. Riis and Associates, 522 Fifth Avenue, New York, which says:**

"This photograph came to light in the office of the Toledo Scale Co., one of our clients, and we thought that you might be interested in having it. If you find occasion to use it we would appreciate it greatly if you would send us a copy of the issue in which it is inserted".

***Came to light.*** **The lingo of the archaeologists! What precious find is here?**

**The picture proves to be the counterfeit presentment, obtained by ordinary photographic methods, of Mr. Louis Weinzheimer. Not, as you might naturally suppose from the manner of its introduction, the identical Weinzheimer who smote the Amalekites hip and thigh and whose bones have bleached for 3700 years on the plain of Kadesh. Not he. This is the picture of a Mr. Louis Weinzheimer of our own degenerate day and he is President of the Calamba and Pampanga Sugar Companies in the Philippine Islands. If there be anything in physiognomy he is a highly intelligent and capable man. Why and how his picture "came to light" in the office of the Toledo Scale Co. is not explained. The coming to light of it is as mysterious as can be. Probably it is left so purposely to whet the public's curiosity and spur on the archaeologists.**

**But so it is, and doubtless all who run and read are expected to ask with interest "Whence and whither, and why, Mr. Weinzheimer?" But we shall not ask, because we think we know. The legend typed on the photograph says he was about to board the China Clipper when it was taken and anyone with a modicum of imagination can envision Mr. Weinzheimer flying through the air with the greatest of ease and calling, not to his horses like Ben Hur, but to the very stars themselves from which those horses took their names: "On, Aldebaran! On, Antares! Yonder is the California Coast and beyond lies Washington!"**

**The Calamba Sugar Co., of which the Pampanga Company appears to be a sort of affiliate or subsidiary, is situated on the Island of Luzon, and is referred to as follows in Farr's Manual for 1937:**

"Capitalization.—Preferred, 7% Cumulative, par $20 (Par value changed from $100 in June, 1928 by five for one split up of shares). Authorized $2,000,000; outstanding, (Sept. 30, 1935), $1,168,300 (with 41,585 additional shares, $831,700 in company's treasury). Common, par $20 (par value changed from $100 in June, 1928, by five for one split up of shares). Authorized and outstanding $5,000,000. Funded Debt.—None. Production.—Short tons: 41,388 in 1936; 31,502 in 1935; 78,843 in 1934; 51,465 in 1933; 53,600 in 1932. Earnings.—Net income after all charges in years ended Sept. 30: 1935, $992,995; 1934, $1,325,986; 1933, $786,671; 1932, $616,380. Balance Sheet Items.—Balance Sheet, as of Sept. 30, 1935 showed Current Assets, $2,562,167; Current Liabilities, $151,047; Working Capital, $2,411,120; Surplus, $737,009. Total Assets and Liabilities, $7,089,918. Dividends.—Regular quarterly on Preferred, Jan. 2, etc. Initial 1½% (30 cents) paid on common April 1, 1926, basis quarterly, Jan. 2, etc., to April 1, 1928 inclusive. Increased to 2% (40 cents) quarterly July 1, 1928 and continued to date. Paid extras of $1 a share each, April 1 and October 2, 1934, April 1 and October 1, 1935; also, extras of $1 a share, April 1, $1.60 a share, Oct. 1, 1936 and $1 a share, Jan. 2, 1937."

**In Washington there is a gathering of the clans. Mr. Paredes and Mr. Yap, of whom we wrote anon, after their proselyting tour of the United States, are there. Philippine President Manuel Quezon is there, or soon will be, and countless other Philippine gentlemen who have an axe on which they seek to put an edge and whose pictures may soon come artfully to**

THE
# SUGAR BULLETIN

407 Carondelet St., New Orleans

Reginald Dykers, Editor

Issued on the 1st and 15th of each month. Official Organ of the American Sugar Cane League of the U. S. A., in which are consolidated
The Louisiana Sugar Planters' Assn.
The American Cane Growers' Assn.
The Producers & Mfrs. Protective Assn
Subscription Price, 50 Cents per Year.

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**light in all sorts of funny and incongruous places where one would never for an instant expect them to be happily discovered.**

**And the very fact and method of their coming to light will be illuminating in itself.**

**The gentlemen associated with Mr. Weinzheimer in the conduct of the Calamba Company are Mr. A. Ehrman, and Mr. C. F. Jacobson.**

**Are they three of our little brown brothers, over whose pathetic helplessness we have wept expensive tears so long? Why, no.**

## Cold-Proof Cane

We publish elsewhere in this issue of *The Sugar Bulletin* an article by Dr. E. W. Brandes entitled "Possibilities of Further Progress in Breeding Sugarcane for Cold Resistance."

This article opens up an intriguing vista of speculation. It seems that some seed of a plant declared by botanists to be a true sugarcane was obtained last year by Dr. Brandes from Uzbekistan, a Russian Soviet Socialist Republic, located much further north than any habitat of Saccharum spontaneum previously discovered. This cane, in the climate of Washington, D. C., withstood 82 days of below freezing temperature, 14 of them bringing temperatures below 20 degrees.

Dr. Brandes is so interested in this "find" that he proposes to go to Uzbekistan in person this summer to get more specimens and seed and to look into the matter generally. One trouble seems to be that he is short some of the necessary funds for making the trip. He would like the American Sugar Cane League to contribute in a cause that may eventually mean so much to the sugar planters of Louisiana. It seems to represent one of the many ways in which the League could profitably spend twice its present revenue if it were available. Compared with the expenditures made in other sugar producing countries to advance their economic position the amount spent by the Louisiana sugar industry in its own behalf is negligible.

## A Discussion of Pending Sugar Legislation

*(By C. J. Bourg)*

The Administration-supported proposal for sugar legislation is contained in the O'Mahoney-Adams Bill (S. 1757) introduced in the Senate, and the Jones Bill (H. R. 4326) introduced in the House of Representatives. The only Bills representing proposals from the domestic sugar industry are the Overton Bill (S. 1428) introduced in the Senate, and the Mouton Bill (H. R. 5321) introduced in the House of Representatives. The Overton-Mouton Bills have been discussed in the last two issues of the Bulletin. The facts of the situation as they exist in Louisiana are:

Production of sugar in Louisiana from the 1936 crop 383,000 tons.

Estimate of 1937 crop already planted and growing 425,000 to 450,000 tons.

The basic quota given to any area under the quota system determines its participation in the benefits provided for growers, because of the provision that no benefit payments will be made to a grower who produces more than his proportionate share of the area quota. Therefore, under the present provisions of the Administration Bill, as it is interpreted in Washington, not only would the basic quota limit the tonnage upon which benefit payments would be made, but would control the production by restricting each grower to his proportionate share of the quota. It is unfortunate and regrettable that we are thus prevented from endorsing the O'Mahoney-Adams-Jones plan, but as long as the quota for Louisiana is less than now being produced, there is no choice. It is obvious that Louisiana cannot agree to plow up sugarcane already planted in order that Cuban sugar may be imported into the United States in lieu of the sugar to be produced in Louisiana from growing cane.

### Permanent Sugar Policy

We must emphasize that the Administration Bill is proposed as a permanent Federal policy and has no termination date. Hence, Congress is legislating for the future, not merely for the next three or four years. In all fairness we must state that the proposal of the Administration at this Session of Congress contains many provisions that represent very considerable improvement over those which were proposed at the previous Sessions of Congress. But our experience of the past three years under Federal control has demonstrated to us clearly that all of the difficulties which we were made to face and all of the complaints which we were forced to make had their inception in the fact that we did not have an adequate quota. If we accept less than an adequate quota in permanent legislation we are inviting a continuation of constant reductions, restrictions, limitations, penalties, complaints, rejections and dissatisfaction. All of these could be readily avoided by the simple change of one figure in the Bill, the figure that would give to Louisiana the adequate quota to which she is entitled.

The beet sugar producing area has a quota to which they are entitled and which permits fair treatment to all growers without reduction in production. Louisiana merely asks for the recognition of her right to the same treatment.

By providing an increase of 100,000 tons to the con-

tinental cane area, making it 360,000, the Administration has recognized the merit of our claim for an increased quota. But the plain facts are that in 1935 and in 1936 the continental cane area produced more than the 360,000 tons offered as a basic quota. In addition, the crops which are to be harvested in 1937 have already been planted months ago and the normal yield from the planted acreage can be conservatively estimated to produce 500,000 tons of sugar, of which Louisiana alone is expected to produce upwards of 425,000 tous. All of these figures are actual performance covering a period of three crop seasons and form an accurate basis upon which the Federal plan can be developed.

## Strings Tied to Concessions

We admit that there has been partial improvement offered to the Louisiaua sugarcane grower, which could be made fairly complete by changiug the figures of the basic quota to represent actual production and an already planted crop, with reasonable development permitted to take care of the new and small grower. One provision will permit the deficit of one continental area to be filled by the other continental area to the extent of its ability to supply the sugar. On its face this is a concession. But it is an offer that has two strings tied to it which would probably prevent our enjoying fully that which is offered. The benefit payments proposed in the Bill would require each farmer to produce only his proportionate share of the quota of the area. If the basic quota of the area is taken as the yardstick to measure the proportionate share of each grower, then the area will not produce any more than its basic quota, with the result that although we are offered the opportunity of filling the deficit of another area, we could not produce the additional sugar with which such deficit might be filled. In addition to this, the benefit payments as provided in the Act would apply only to the production within the basic quota, so that any sugar produced above such basic quota would not be eligible for payment, as we construe the Bill. This would mean that if Louisiana in 1937 and in the future years has such a crop as was harvested last year, with high yields per acre exceeding the normal yields of past years, we would be permitted to market the sugar, because of the deficit in the beet sugar area, and we would have to pay the excise tax on all sugar so marketed, but we would not receive benefit payments on the cane which produced the sugar so marketed within the final quota and upon which the excise tax had been paid. It is entirely possible that it was not the intention of the proponents of the Administration Bill to deprive the growers of these benefits, because part of the philosophy of the Bill is that the taxes collected on sugar produced in the United States would be to all practical purposes returned to the grower in the form of benefit payments. Thus it is entirely reasonable to expect that a correcting amendment will be accepted to provide for payments on all sugarcane used to produce sugar marketed within the final quota.

The preferential right of continental areas to increases in consumption is fixed at 30% of any increase above 6,552,000 tons. Under the Jones-Costigan Act this right was fixed at 30% of any increase above 6,452,000 tons. This change of base would amount to depriving continental United States of 30,000 tons of sugar and will probably be corrected.

## Rate of Payment to Growers

A very favorable provision in the O'Mahoney-Adams-Jones Bill is the fixing of the rate payment to the grower at 70c per 100 pounds of sugar. Computed on the extraction records of the past several years this would mean a payment of approximately $1.10 per ton of sugarcane. Previous Bills had offered a payment of "not more than 50c per 100 pounds", while the Overton-Mouton Bill proposed a payment of not less than 60c per 100 pounds. The definite figure of 70c removes the uncertainty as to what the grower can expect.

In this connection it should be noted that Section 204 of the Administration Bill would give to the Secretary of Agriculture the right to adjust quotas "so that the supply of sugar made available under this Act will not be so restricted as to result in prices to consumers, determined by the Secretary to be in excess of those reasonably necessary, in addition to the payments provided for in title III of this Act, (70c per 100 pounds) to maintain the domestic sugar producing industry and to make the production of sugar beets and sugarcane as profitable on the average as the production of the principal other agricultural crops." The Secretary of Agriculture having announced that it is his intention not to permit the imposition of the tax to result in higher prices to the consumer, the conclusion is that the price of raw sugar will be reduced in such an amount as will leave the price of direct consumption sugar, including the tax, at or below the present price. This intended reduction in the price of raw sugar will reduce the price of sugarcane under the purchase contract, which fixes the price of sugarcane in direct relation to the average price of raw sugar.

## Secretary to Control Prices

Under the Jones-Costigan Act the Secretary made his adjustment of quotas exclusively on the available statistics of the Department of Agriculture, and the provisions authorizing adjustments to control prices is a new legislative thought. Before Congress grants this broad delegation of power to the Secretary of Agriculture, it is expected that a full explanation of the implications will be sought by Members of Congress, so that there may be a better understanding of what would be the probable procedure in determining what prices are "reasonably necessary" and what is the average profit in the production of the prpincipal other agricultural crops.

Payments for crop abandonment or crop deficiency caused by freeze, flood, drought, storm, disease or insects, are authorized in the Bill and would provide effective crop insurance without the necessity of paying premiums. This provision is a protection against crop disaster which will be welcomed by all sugarcane growers. In the case of bona-fide abandonment payment would be made on 1/3 of the normal yield of sugar for each planted acre, and in the case of crop deficiency, it would be an amount by which 80% of the normal yield of sugar for each harvested acre would exceed the actual yield. For instance, if the normal yield of sugar would be 100 pounds of sugar, then 80% would be 80 pounds, and if the actual yield is 50 pounds, then the payment would be on the basis of 30 pounds.

## Excise Tax Levied

An excise tax of three-fourths of a cent (¾c) per pound of sugar, raw value, is levied upon every person who manufactures sugars after April 1, 1937. The tax would become due from the manufacturer at the time of manufacturing, but would be payable on the last day of each month on the amount of sugar marketed during the next preceding month. The Bill does not define the word "manufacture", and it will probably be necessary to do so. But it has been explained that the intention is to impose a tax on the final processing for direct consumption. This means refining of raw sugars, as well as final preparation of sugar for direct consumption by manufacturing process. The net effect of fixing the date of April 1, 1937, will be that no sugars manufactured from sugarcane or sugar beets during the 1936-37 crop season will be subject to tax, except those raw sugars which may be refined after April 1, 1937. These matters will necessarily be made entirely clear at the Public Hearing and in the reports of the committees to the House and Senate.

It is estimated that an excise tax of three-fourths of a cent (¾c) per pound will produce a revenue for the Federal Government of $100,000,000, although the Bill authorizes appropriations each year not to exceed $55,000,000. The benefit payments to growers in continental United States, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico, based upon present consumption requirements, would be in round figures about $50,000,000. This amount would be subject to certain reductions in the case of growers whose production of sugar beets or sugarcane would represent in excess of 250 tons of sugar. The base rate of payment per 100 pounds of sugar would be graduated as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| 250 tons of sugar (or up to 3000 tons of sugarcane) | 70c |
| 250 to 500 tons of sugar (3,000 to 6,000 tons of sugarcane) | 67½c |
| 500 to 1500 tons of sugar (6,000 to 18,000 tons of sugarcane | 65c |
| 1500 to 6,000 tons of sugar (18,000 to 72,000 tons of sugarcane) | 62½c |
| 6,000 to 12,000 tons of sugar (72,000 to 144,000 tons of sugarcane) | 60c |
| 12,000 to 30,000 tons of sugar (144,000 to 360,000 tons of sugarcane) | 57½c |
| More than 30,000 tons of sugar (More than 360,000 tons of sugarcane) | 45c |

The requirements necessary for a grower to qualify for benefit payments would be as follows

(1) No child labor.
(2) Minimum wages and maximum hours for laborers.
(3) Production of not more than the grower's proportionate share of the area (Louisiana).
(4) A grower who is also a processor is required to pay for sugarcane at prices determined by the Secretary to be fair.
(5) Farming practices to preserve and improve the fertility of the soil and to prevent soil erosion.

The Secretary is also authorized to hold Public Hearings and to make recommendations with respect to the terms and conditions of purchase contracts between processors and growers, and also with respect to the terms and conditions of field labor or of factory labor contracts.

The Bill requires that the quotas and the excise tax must continue to exist jointly, and that if either the quotas or the tax should cease to exist, then the other shall also terminate. In other words there can be no quotas without a tax, or there can be no tax without quotas.

### No Tax on Syrup

No tax is to be collected on sirup and therefore there will be no payments made on sugarcane produced for sirup. Naturally, this provision will be subject to practical application in the Sugar Belt, in some manner similar to the plan used under the AAA program.

There are many other interesting provisions of the Bill, but the above discussion covers the more important features. Public Hearings are expected to be called within a very short time, so that each group of the sugar industry shall have a full opportunity to present to the committees in charge of the legislation their views approving the different provisions of the sugar program proposed by the Administration.

## Splendid Resolution Adopted

The Board of Directors of the New Orleans Association of Commerce adopted the following preamble and resolution at their regular meeting held March 10th, 1937 and the New Orleans Association of Commerce will send copies of it to every U. S. Senator and every member of the House of Representatives in Washington:

WHEREAS, The O'Mahoney-Adams Bill, Senate 1757, places a quota of 360,000 tons on the cane sugar to be produced in the United States, notwithstanding the fact that Louisiana alone produced 383,514 tons in 1936 and Florida is expected to produce some 50,000 tons from the 1936-37 crop, and both States are steadily increasing their output, and

WHEREAS, We regard the deliberate discouragement of any industry in the United States that is a legitimate one, and that gives employment to American working people and increases trade and commerce and transportation, as wrong and contrary to the principles of equity and fair play and economics, especially as the sugar this proposed legislation will prevent Louisiana and Florida from making will have to be made abroad by foreign labor to supply the deficit, and

WHEREAS, The Louisiana sugar industry and the Florida sugar industry are not only deserving of but entitled to an opportunity to work out their destiny without legislative bias or discrimination against them, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the New Orleans Association of Commerce declares the imposition of a quota of 360,000 tons of sugar per year on an American industry that actually produces some 425,000 tons per year and gives promise and prospect of producing upwards of 500,000 tons in 1937, and which gives reciprocal business to hundreds of other American industries and employment to thousands of American working men will be an improper, abritrary and destructive exercise of legislative power and we ask all members of the Congress, whether from Louisiana and Florida or from other States, to oppose it both on economic grounds and on principle, and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be mailed to each Senator and each Member of the House of Representatives in the Congress of the United States, and copies given to the newspapers and the Associated Press and the United Press.

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# Possibilities of Further Progress in Breeding Sugarcane for Cold Resistance

*By: E. W. Brandes, Division of Sugar Plant Investigations, Bureau of Plant Industry.*

At Arlington Farm, across the Potomac River from Washington, an interesting experiment is in progress. The material consists of two short rows of a wild form of sugarcane, *Saccharum spontaneum*, and the conditions of the experiment are not controlled but are dictated by nature out of doors. In appearance the cane is not prepossessing. The stalks are of lead-pencil thickness and only four to five feet long. (fig. 1). But in every one of the several hundred stools of cane a substantial proportion of stalks have survived the rigors of winter to the preseent time, March first. The plants claim attention because of that extraordinary performance. During the winter temperatures below freezing have occurred on 82 days, below 20° F. on 14 days, and the minimum temperature recorded was 14½° on December 1. These are thermograph records taken 6 inches above the ground between the rows of cane.

At ten-day intervals since late October, when the first freezing weather occurred, stalks selected for their green appearance have been cut from these plants and, divided into cuttings of appropriate length, have been planted in pots in the greenhouse. In every lot so planted more than 90% of the lateral eyes have germinated and more than 80% of the tops (growing points of the stem) have resumed growth when brought indoors (See Fig. 2).

Although this curious and perhaps valuable wild sugarcane was observed and collected in Central Asia as early as 1911 by a Russian botanist, the carefully pressed, dry specimen apparently escaped further notice. No one seems to have taken any interest in the potential utility of the plant until 1935 when a packet of seed collected on the Amu Darja, a river in the Soviet Socialist Republic of Uzbekistan, was sent to the writer by two Russian correspondents, Berezin and Soubbotine, of the Botanical Institute, Ashkhabad. The seeds did not germinate but on urgent request for more seed three packets were received in January, 1936, this time from Taranenco, Director of the All Union Research Institute, Tashkent. These seeds germinated freely and the plants were set out in the open in April last year. A few produced blooms in late July (fig. 3) and it was determined that the seed in two of the packets was in fact that of a true *Saccharum*. It is admitted now that reference of the plants to the genus Saccharum by the Russian botanists had been viewed here with skepticism because of the far north habitat so foreign to our conception of where sugarcane should grow. The seed in the third packet was that of a related plant, not a Saccharum, and it is presumed that this indicates a pardonable lack of familiarity with sugarcane on the part of the Uzbek or Tadjik native sent out to do the collecting.

It was mentioned that the wild cane bloomed in July, that is, during the long days of midsummer. That introduces a serious problem because tropical Saccharums bloom in winter, when the days are short. The stimulus in either case seems to be the relative lengths of day and night. In order to make a cross, it is obvious that the plants must bloom

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simultaneously. Fortunately, there are two possibilities of making crosses and both will be attempted this year. A chance is presented because of the fact that compared with ours the seasons are reversed south of the Equator and with present rapid air service the arrows or flowering stalks can be brought from Lima, Peru to Washington in slightly less than four days. Arrangements have already been made with Prof. Jose Carreras, of the Agricultural Experiment Station, La Molina, near Lima, to send several consignments of arrows by air in July. The wild cane which is expected to bloom in July at Wash-

Fig. 1. Cold tolerating wild sugarcane from Central Asia, Arlington Farm, Va.

Fig. 3. Arrows of cold tolerating sugarcane produced 1936 at Arlington Farm, Va.

Fig. 2. Eyes sprouting (front row) and tops resuming growth (back row) after exposure to 14½ degrees Fahrenheit.

ington will be used as the pollen parent. The reciprocal cross will not be attemptd because it is difficult to emasculate the tiny flowers of the wild cane and it is not considered feasible to use pollen of the tropical canes on the stigmas of the wild cane in Washington. The cost would be very much less of course if pollen could be sent instead of arrows which, practically speaking, are entire stalks bearing the inflorescenses and are rather heavy. Air express is costly and the experiment will be rather expensive.

Another possibility is to increase artificially in early winter the number of daylight hours to which the wild cane is exposed, in other words, to stimulate the relative length of day and night to which the plant would be naturally exposed in midsummer. This device has been found successful in the case of many plants and has induced them to bloom out of season. The apparatus is expensive, however, especially in the case of plants as large as sugarcane. Several hundred plants are now being propagated at Washington for the length of day experiments.

It will be surprising to most people and indeed to sugarcane experts to learn that this recently discovered wild sugarcane grows naturally in Central Asia as far north as the latitude of New York City. The significance of the find may be very great because it arouses the hope that by crossing the wild cane with varieties now grown in the South, hybrids of economic usefulness and more resistant to cold may be obtained. The advantages of reducing by a single Fahrenheit degree the critical point at which cane is injured by cold is self-evident. When the expectation is that the danger point may be depressed two or more degrees a substantial service to the industry is indicated.

In quest of sugarcane for breeding purposes the Department of Agriculture has sent expeditions to remote parts of the world during the past fifteen years. Another expedition is planned for the coming summer and will direct its course toward the native home of the cold-resisting wild sugarcane. The country is north of Afghanistan and northwest of Tibet close to the region that has come to be known as the roof of the world. Temperatures range from below zero in winter to 120° above in midsummer. Within a relatively few miles are mountain peaks 24,000 to over 26,000 feet high. The wild cane is found both in the upper reaches of the river and on the river banks in the low arid plains to the west. Because of the diversity in habitat ranging from alpine conditions to low elevations in the Turanian depression it is expected that considerable variation will be found among the individual plants and it is desired that a careful study and selection be made where the plant is indigenous in order to take advantage of the variations. The country was closed to ordinary travelers in 1932 and has not been reopened but it is hoped that permission will be granted for this scientific expedition which may be to the mutual advantage of the U. S. and the U.S.S.R.

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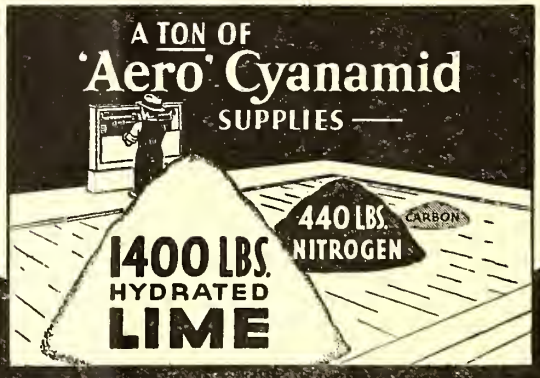


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THE
# SUGAR BULLETIN

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*We stand for the encouragement of Home Industries as against Foreign Competition.*

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## Are They Bringing Home The Bacon?

(By The Associated Press)
Warm Springs, Ga., March 21.—It was authoritatively reported here today that President Roosevelt is considering a trip to the Philippines this fall or next winter.

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No matter how much we may disapprove of the objectives of the Filipinos or dislike the methods adopted by them to attain their ends, the fact remains that their tactics seem to gain some ground. The above quoted Associated Press dispatch is a straw in the wind.

The plan of having suave Orientals travel around the United States presenting specious arguments to Chambers of Commerce, and the plan of having professional publicity agents in New York bring about the publication of the pictures of impressive looking Philippine industrialists in the United States press, to all of which we called attention in recent issues of *The Sugar Bulletin,* is undoubtedly aiding the campaign of the Filipinos to eventually eat their independence cake and have it too. That would be a serious state of affairs for a lot of people in the United States.

If President Roosevelt is induced to go to the Philippine Islands the task of the Filipinos will be more than half accomplished. No high United States official has ever visited one of our insular relatives without coming back persuaded that our stingy family is not allowing poor cousin-in-law Aguinaldo Iglesias Quezon Batista enough pocket money. The Filipinos are well aware that no President of the United States has ever gone abroad without giving something away. President Woodrow Wilson did all the spade work for giving away ten billion dollars when he went to Europe in 1919 and President Franklin D. Roosevelt officially gave away the last shreds and fragments of the Monroe Doctrine when he went to Buenos Aires a few months ago, although you did not see much about that in the newspapers.

What has become of the wise old maxim, observed from George Washington to William H. Taft, that the President of the United States, during his term of office, should not absent himself from his country? Apparently it is dead but it ought to be resurrected.

That there are economic as well as political questions cooking in the Philippine pot may be taken for granted and their exact nature may not come to light until it is too late for any opposition to be effective.

THE
# SUGAR BULLETIN

407 Carondelet St., New Orleans

Reginald Dykers, Editor

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The Producers & Mfrs. Protective Assn
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## The Hearings at Washington

*(By C. J. Bourg)*

The Hearings on the Jones Bill H. R. 5326, which presents the Administration's proposal for a Sugar Act, have extended well beyond a week instead of the few days at first expected. The general attitude was in favor of the enactment of a Sugar Act, although each interested group had some amendments to propose.

In the case of Louisiana the presentation was centered on the proposition that unless Louisiana is given an adequate basic quota, the benefits intended by the Bill would only apply in a restricted or partial sense to the Louisiana grower. Therefore, Louisiana asked for unrestricted production by the adoption of an ample continental quota whereby all States of the Union would have the same privilege of producing without reductions. Naturally it was shown how far reaching the effect of the basic quota is, involving as it does not only the question of production and free marketing but also the individual allotment to growers and the amount of the benefit payments to be made available.

While all of the testimony offered at the Hearing is of interest, we will confine this discussion to the witnesses on behalf of Louisiana.

Congressman Robert L. Mouton of the Third District requested the Committee to accept the Mouton Bill (H. R. 5231), which carries the same provisions as the Overton Bill (S. 1428). He urged them particularly to give their most generous consideration to the quota provisions of his Bill, which provide a continental quota representative of actual production and available sugars each year until such time as the continental quota should reach one-third of the total consumption of sugar in the United States. Obviously as the consumption would increase the participation of continental producers would be greater in proportion. He demonstrated to the Committee that these continental quota provisions would place all growers in the United States on an equal basis, so that any deficits in one or more States would inure immediately to the benefit of the other States, without the necessity of any reallocation based upon estimates by the Secretary and requiring the formal issue of Regulations.

Congressman Rene DeRouen of the Seventh District, speaking as the Dean of the Louisiana Delegation in Congress, asked for the cooperation of his fellow members of Congress in solving this agricultural problem so important to the State of Louisiana as a whole. He approached the subject with an expression of confidence that Chairman Marvin Jones and the Members of his Committee would recognize the necessity for a revision in the quota status of Louisiana and also see the merit of the petition of the Louisiana growers to be given the same opportunity to share in the sugar program as would be given to the beet growers of the United States.

Congressman DeRouen particularly requested the Committee to give serious consideration to amendments which would either bring to Louisiana the advantages of a continental quota or which would provide such a quota as to be in effect the same as a continental quota. With the purpose of showing a willingness to work with the Committee in arriving at a practical solution of the more difficult problems attendant upon any sugar program, Congressman DeRouen proposed that the continental quota should be placed at 2,050,000 short tons raw value, of which the States of Louisiana and Florida would receive a basic minimum of 500,000 short tons, raw value. As a part of his proposal the Congressman suggested that the continental area should be permitted to enjoy 45% of any increase in consumption, instead of 30% as provided in the Bill. He pointed out that the fixing of an inflexible quota for the Philippine Islands, had eliminated the Filipinos from participating in any increase in consumption. Under the Jones-Costigan Act the Philippines participation in increased consumption amounted to approximately 15%; therefore, Congressman DeRouen proposed that this 15% be added to the 30% and the continental area given the entire 45%. He further suggested that the basic consumption figure upon which this 45% would apply should be 6,452,000 tons, the same basic consumption figure as appears in the Jones-Costigan Act.

In order to make sure that the full benefits of the quota increase would be guaranteed to the growers, in addition to the right to participate in any deficit of other sections of the continental area, the Congressman suggested that individual allotments to growers or to farms shall be in terms of *acreage*. In this manner the full advantage of the new varieties of cane with proper cultivation and agricultural methods would flow to the grower, so that he would be paid upon his total production from his base acreage, regardless of how high the yield of cane might be. It should be stated that it has been informally

declared to be the intention of the Secretary of Agriculture to give allotments in terms of acreage to Louisiana growers, but in view of the fact that the Bill proposed is permanent legislation, it is thought advisable to have the intention written into the law.

Other amendments in the same connection would direct the Secretary to base his estimate of the amount of sugar to be required from such area, upon the basic quota, the increase in consumption, the deficits of other areas, and the normal inventory of carryover from year to year. Again it was informally understood to be the intention of the Secretary so to administer the Act but the amendments were considered necessary in view of the experience of Louisiana growers under the Jones-Costigan Act, when they were penalized for growing sugarcane even though the sugar made from that sugarcane was later authorized to be marketed under the Louisiana quota. In addition, it is apparent that if the growers are given allotments which do not anticipate apparent increases in consumption or deficits, then the right to supply sugar to make up these increases and deficits would not be of practical advantage, unless the growers were permitted to produce and market sugar profitably through benefits payable on what might be termed the final sugar-marketing quota.

In keeping with the provisions of the Overton-Mouton Bill, Congressman DeRouen also suggested that the Jones Bill should be amended so that every grower would be given the right to produce "a minimum necessary for a profitable operation, consistent with good farming practices in the experience of the farming community." Such an amendment would give definite meaning to the provision of the Jones Bill which authorizes the Secretary to "protect the interests of both new and small producers."

A surprise witness was Congressman Allen Treadway of Massachusetts, who appeared on behalf of his constituents in New England who sell machinery and other supplies to the domestic sugar industry and particularly to Louisiana. He asked that the Louisiana industry be permitted to expand in order that the purchasing power may be increased and the benefits extended even into New England.

Mr. Chester Gray, Washington Representative of the American Farm Bureau Federation called the attention of the Committee to the resolutions of his Federation adopted at the last annual meeting, which proclaimed the policy of unrestricted production in the United States of any product of which there is no exportable surplus. Mr. Gray emphasized the need of the application of this principle in Federal policy to the growers in Louisiana, who, he declared should be unrestricted as to production. When asked from what source the additional sugar might be had, Mr. Gray readily stated that if any increase in the United States quotas are needed they should be taken from the quotas of *foreign* countries. Speaking as he does for the largest national farm organization, Mr. Gray's testimony was very effective and seemed to impress the Committee with the broad principles at stake. Mr. Gray explained that it is his understanding that the beet growers are amply provided for under the quotas and for this reason he was speaking chiefly of the Louisiana situation which seems to require greatest attention. Mr. Gray also made other recommendations such as placing quotas on the importations of blackstrap molasses and making these importations subject to the tax the same as other sugars. He specifically stated that if any exemptions as to quota or tax are to be made they should be made only on domestic production.

The official witness of the American Sugar Cane League representing the cane growers of Louisiana was Mr. W. F. Giles, Vice-President of the League. All who know Mr. Giles can readily appreciate how his personality and persuasiveness were well received by the Committee and how effective a witness he proved to be. Since Mr. Giles was speaking for the whole industry it appears to us appropriate that excerpts from his main testimony as well as from the questioning against which he held his own so successfully, should be reproduced hereinbelow for the information of our members.

## Statement of Mr. W. F. Giles, Vice-President, American Sugar Cane League,

(Made before the Sub-Committee considering the Jones Bill (Sugar Act of 1937) in Washington on March 18th, 1937)

Mr. Giles. Mr. Chairman and gentlemen of the committee: My name is W. F. Giles, of Adeline, Louisiana. I represent the cane growers of Louisiana. My understanding of this hearing is that it is for the purpose of seeing if any improvement can be made in the bill; and Louisiana appreciates the opportunity of cooperating in the spirit of the bill. Louisiana is, as you know, the oldest sugar-producing State in the Union, supplying the American market. At one time Louisiana supplied one-half of the consumption of the United States.

Mr. Cummings. Do you have an entirely new bill?

Mr. Giles. I am only going to ask one amendment to the Jones Bill, Mr. Chairman. I am not going to change it at all; I am only going to ask that one amendment be made. We are asking for adequate quotas for Louisiana, which is absolutely essential, otherwise we get only partial benefit. Louisiana's production record shows two years in which over 400,000 tons of sugar, raw value, were produced. Louisiana's quota is based on a period of extremely low production resulting from mosaic disease; consequently, we do not get a proper quota. Under the Jones bill Louisiana is to get a quota which I estimate at 310,000 tons. We have 360,000 tons, but part of it goes to Florida, and I do not know just what the difference will be. Louisiana's actual production in 1935, was 333,000 tons, and the actual production in 1936 was 383,000 tons, and planting of growing cane now being cultivated to produce at least 425,000 tons. The basic quota is fundamentally necessary to get benefits, so that, to the extent that the basic quota is inadequate, Louisiana growers are deprived of benefits, which means they do not receive equal treatment with beet growers.

Mr. Cummings. About how many acres would that mean?

Mr. Giles. I will give you those figures a little later, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Giles. In view of the deficit of beet sugar, Louisiana should be able to enjoy the full advantage of a transfer of this deficit, but one of the requirements for benefit payments is that the production shall not be greater than the grower's proportionate share of the amount estimated by the Secretary required to fill the quota. We can see that, very liberally construed, the Secretary could, for this year, grant Louisiana the full benefits, but when the beet deficit is made up, as it surely will be, then Louisiana will be back to its basic quota which is entirely inadequate.

We favor a continental quota by which any State in the United States would be permitted to make up the deficit of the other States as long as the total continental quota was not exceeded. This would put all States on an equal basis, as it should be. We really prefer the Mouton bill, as regards the question of quotas.

The philosophy of the bill is that the tax collected on sugar should be returned to the grower whose cane or beets produce the sugar. There should be no situation, where a tax is collected on Louisiana sugar and the benefit payments are withheld from the producer whose cane pays a tax.

Under the Jones' bill all areas are definitely limited in their production excepting Cuba. Benefit payments to con-

tinental United States, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico are based upon production not in excess of the quota. The Filipinos are given a fixed quota which can not be increased. The Cubans are given the right of participating in increased consumption and in the deficit of any producing area, plus the advantage of selling sugar on the world market. The facts are that Cuba produces greatly in excess of its United States import quota. If the Cuban quota is not increased, the Cubans sell their sugar on the world market, but no matter how great the increase of consumption or how great the deficit of any area, Cuba always has available sugar to supply under an increased quota. Should there be an enormous deficit resulting from a major disaster in any area, no producing area under the Jones bill would be able to furnish any considerable quantity of sugar to make up the deficit, excepting Cuba. Cuba would merely retire from the world market and send her sugar into the United States where she enjoys a preferential of 97-1/2 cents per 100 pounds, and probably would get a very fancy price.

It is correct to state that when Louisiana is restricted in its quota to the extent of its present production or plantings, American citizens are being deprived of the right to participate in the American market in order that foreigu sugar may come in and enjoy that market.

Under a quota system efficiently administered, Louisiana growers would be better off without benefit payments and without any tax on sugar.

Mr. Cummings. Would you mind repeating that last statement?

Mr. Giles. Certainly. Under a quota system efficiently administered, Louisiana growers would be better off without benefit payments and without any tax on sugar.

Mr. Cummings. You think, as I understand you to say, that Louisiana would be better off without any sugar legislation?

Mr. Giles. No.

Mr. Cummings. You would prefer no legislation?

Mr. Giles. No; I did not say that. Under the quota system we would be better off; the same quota system that existed during the year 1936; we were better off in 1936 than we were in 1935.

Mr. Cummings. All right.

Mr. Giles. We are not making a fight for that, because we understand the beet areas have a different situation entirely and the present bill covers their needs. Consequently we are not making a fight on it, but Louisiana would like a quota without benefit payments or tax. Under the contract of sale of the cane to the processors we are taken care of and get a fair price, and this contract was written by a representative of the growers, a representative of the processors and a representative of the administration. That was for the 1935 crop, and it worked out so well we adopted the same contract for the year 1936. The crop season of 1936 was profitable and satisfactory, when there was a quota system, but no benefit payments or taxes. Of course, if the price of sugar is to be reduced in the amount of the tax imposed, and if Louisiana were given an adequate quota by which it could market and be paid upon all of the sugar it produces, then there would be an advantage in the program offered by the Jones bill. But as long as the Louisiana quota is grossly inadequate, Louisiana would be better off without benefit payments or taxes.

Mr. Hope. You want the quota system without tax? That is, you would be willing to take the quota that you will get, with the tax, but would prefer that quota without the tax?

Mr. Giles. If the quota system was administered so that we would get a fair price for sugar Louisiana would be better off this year, undoubtedly better off, without the tax or the benefit payments.

Mr. Cummings. Let me see if I get your thought. I that not due to the fact that you people grew a larger amount of sugar than your quota? You mean you would make more money without this tax than with it. But this bill is not designed in that way; the bill is designed to take care of the whole sugar industry, including the growers.

Mr. Giles. Well, I am one of those growers.

Mr. Cummings. So am I.

Mr. Giles. I have absolutely no factory affiliations at all; and I grow cane and sell it to the factories by the ton, and I accept that as my position, along with ten or twelve thousand other growers in the district.

Mr. Cummings. You grow it but do not process it.

Mr. Giles. I grow it but do not process it.

We produced in 1936-1937, 383,000 tons of cane and Florida will produce about 60,000 tons, a total of 443,000 tons against the proposed quota of 360,000 tons. We have already planted and are now cultivating in Louisiana sufficient cane to produce, conservatively estimated, 425,000 tons, possibly 450,000 tons. I understood—and if this statement is not correct, I would like to be corrected, but this is my understanding, that the Hawaiian and Puerto Rican representatives stated that these areas are close to peak production. Now, as I say, that may not be correct, but that was my undersanding of their statement; that they are close to peak production. Cuba has no limit on production and beet areas have not reached their quotas for three years, therefore the continental cane areas are the only ones materially restricted under the Jones bill. Regardless of whether Louisiana is given an additional quota or not, at least 425,000 tons will be grown and marketed from the crop of 1937-1938, yet the Jones bill provides possible allotment to Louisiana of 310,000 tons. And I will say in reference to the 425,000 or possibly 450,000 tons, that all of us have already planted our crop, and while some of us would doubtless plow up some of it, the bulk of us have cane in excess of their quota under the present bill and would probably just take their chance.

If this were not a permanent bill, if this were only for one year, or two years or three years, or even four, it would be different, but we are looking on this as a permanent bill, permanent legislation. This year the administration in working out the soil conservation program used the old Jones-Costigan quota system, and to show the far-reaching effect of our quotas, the beet people will be paid 12-1/2 cents per 100 pounds under the soil conservation act while Louisiana will only be paid 7-1/2 cents per hundred pounds due to Louisiana's payments being based on the quotas fixed under the Jones-Costigan Act. Thus the benefit under the conservation quotas, and our benefit payments would be reduced in the same proportion.

Now I want to ask this in the form of a question, and I do not ask it expecting any one to answer it, but you may have it in mind: Do you object to Louisiana being put on the same basis as Colorado or Michigan or Iowa or any other State? That is all. That is all we ask for.

Mr. Treadway's statement called my attention to the fact that Louisiana is now buying heavily of Kansas and Missouri mules at peak prices. I know that is true because I bought some of them. When I say peak prices, I am not complaining because Kansas farmers are able to sell their mules at what I hope is a profitable figure. But I do emphasize the fact that Louisiana was able to grow a full crop of cane after the Supreme Court invalidated the Agricultural Adjustment Act, otherwise we would not have been able to have bought those mules. And in addition to the mules from Kansas and sugar machinery from Massachusetts, we buy steel from Pennsylvania, plows from Illinois and Georgia, pumps from New Jersey, tractors from other States and scales from Vermont, as well as many other articles from other States, including pork from the corn belt.

The Resettlement Administration has placed many former cane growers on farms—they began last year—and while I have no exact figures, their production next year will be considerable. Very properly, I feel the bill provides for quotas to new farmers and small farmers are allowed sufficient production to give them a living income. These two items will probably take up a large part of the additional quota that has been allotted to Louisiana, leaving the old growers who maintained the industry during the period of depression practically where they stood under the Jones-Costigan Act. In other words, people who had been growing cane all along, all of their lives, are going to be placed back under the Joues-Costigan Act, due to the fact that the new growers are going to take the greater part of the increase that we are now getting. The ruling by the Department giving small growers the right to produce and market up to 100 tons increased output materially. That was under the old Jones-Costigan act.

We are faced with this strange situation. One branch of the Departmeut of Agriculture is working hard to develop better varieties of cane that will produce more tonnage and more sugar, while another branch is discouraging the growth of these canes after they are developed. In this connection, I will say that the Bureau of Plant Industry is making a swell job in furnishing us superior varieties of cane; that is, we are growing cane now that will produce far in excess of our brightest expectations, but the Sugar Section is not allowing us to enjoy this development to the fullest extent because they are restrieting our production

in order that Cuba may profit thereby. I should say rather that the Sugar Section is discouraging the increase. Louisiana planted in 1935, 246,000 acres. This was increased in 1936 twelve per cent, and approximately the same percentage in 1937 which is close to the 1911 acreage, 310,000.

There are several clauses in the bill that we feel might be improved on, as well as a number of amendments proposed by the beet growers which have merit, but really we can not be interested in any of these, or any other phase of the bill, unless we get an adequate quota. In other words, we are willing to go along with the beet people and support anything they propose as long as we are placed on the same basis as they enjoy, and to which we are both entitled.

Every serious problem that has confronted the Louisiana sugar industry in the past several years and the sugar section in its administration of the Jones-Costigan Act in Louisiana, could be traced eventually to the fact that Louisiana does not have an adequate quota. We all recognize that fact. I am on the Grower-Processor Committee that writes and administers cane contracts in Louisiana, and the county control committee, in St. Mary Parish, herefore, I am familiar with many of the problems encountered in administering the Jones-Costigan bill. The Secretary of Agriculture has suggested an increase of one hundred thousand tons for the continental cane area, for which we are thankful, but we think that is a recognition of the fact that we did not have sufficient quota. Therefore, we are agreed as to the necessity of improving the situation. Our only difference is that we need two hundred and forty thousand additional for Florida and Louisiana to take care of our present production and plantings. The Secretary of Agriculture has offered us one hundred thousand. I have shown that Louisiana needs a great deal more than has been offered in order to completely remove the objections. Therefore, our difference with the Sugar Section is only one of degree and by giving us an adequate quota there would be no violation of any principle or administrative policy of the Secretary of Agriculture.

As I said before, I understood the Puerto Rican and Hawaiian representatives to say that they had about reached peak production. The continental beet areas have not reached their quota during the past three years. Cuba has unrestricted production. While her sales to the United States are limited, she can grow any quantity and sell the balance on the world market. Therefore, apparently the continental cane area is the only territory materially restricted in its production. Hawaii, Puerto Rico and continental areas are restricted under this act in their producton, this being limited to the quantity they are allowed to sell. Therefore, in the event of a major disaster, Cuba would be the only country in a position to supply the deficit and enjoy what would probably be a very profitable market.

Mr. Cummings. Now just one question. I understand that you would rather have no benefit payments in the growing of the 400,000 tons of sugar than to be limited to 220,000 tons of sugar?

Mr. Giles. Yes, and no tax.

Mr. Cummings. Now that means that you would lose over $3,000,000 in benefit payments; that means that the 180,000 tons you would grow (the difference between the 400,000 and the 220,000) would cost you $16.70 a ton for the privilege of growing that 180,000. There seems to be something screwy about those figures somewhere.

Mr. Giles. The difference is this; we not only get the benefit payments but we would pay in taxes slightly more than we get back from benefit payments. You must keep that in mind, that under the Louisiana contract—

Mr. Cummings. I was speaking of benefit payments.

Mr. Giles. Yes.

Mr. Cummings. And I was figuring the benefit payments. You get $15 a ton of sugar in benefit payments; Now suppose you were to grow a little more than 400,000 tons and not get the benefit payments from growing 220,000 you would lose, as I figure it, around $3,000,000 in benefit payments for the privilege of growing 180,000 additional tons of sugar, which would be about $16.70 a ton.

Mr. Giles. Yes; but we would have to pay that amount in taxes. As it works out, Louisiana would simply get back what we pay in taxes. There is no advantage in paying the tax to the Government and then the Government paying it back in benefit payments.

Mr. Cummings. Those payments go to make up the losses, don't they?

Mr. Giles. They will not if we are taxed. If we are

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taxed and there are no payments then that would be another story.

Mr. Cummings. You get $15 in payments, do you not?

Mr. Giles. Yes; but we are paying a little more than $15. Now the point that I am making—

Mr. Cummings (interposing). It is your theory then, is it, that the benefit payments are not going to do you any good?

Mr. Giles. They are not if we have to pay the taxes before we get the benefits.

Of course, if we are going to pay the taxes we want to have the benefits, but my statement was that we would be better off without the tax and the benefit payments.

Mr. Hope. It is your theory that the quota system would be better off without the tax and benefit payments.

Mr. Giles. That is correct; that is what I had in mind, so far as Louisiana is concerned, if it were worked out and we had no surplus; that was my statement, but we are not complaining about that.

Mr. Coffee. You had 260,000 under the previous quota and you are going to have 360,000?

Mr. Giles. Louisiana would not have; Louisiana and Florida, those two areas; but we will produce about 430,000 tons.

Mr. Coffee. Of course, you realize that the quota must be maintained in order to maintain stability; that is the purpose of the legislation.

Mr. Giles. Yes.

Mr. Coffee. Would you advise us what you have in mind for taking care of that quota? If you increase the quota for Louisiana where would you get it?

Mr. Giles. We produced last year, as I said, more than our quota, for the market and I never heard much about it; I do not know where it came from, but it went into consumption and was consumed, entered the channels of trade, and nobody complained. I never heard any complaint from anyone.

Mr. Coffee. I think you realize that came about because the sugar beet area, due to the drouth, did not produce their quota. They did not produce their quota and it went to Louisiana and to Florida.

Mr. Giles. Yes.

Mr. Hope. You will produce 420,000 tons this year under the theory that somebody is going to be short, and that you will get that much more?

Mr. Giles. That 420,000 tons was planted before we knew there would be a quota. At least, at that time, we did not know there would be a continental quota after the invalidation of the act, as the planting of the cane began in the fall, for the 1937 crop; that was planted in September and October of 1936 before there was any talk of quotas; and, we went ahead and planted.

Mr. Hope. You planted more than your quota last year, too, didn't you, when you were under the Jones-Costigan Act?

Mr. Giles. We increased it a little there—most of the growers did not, but there was one large grower in the State, that I understood went ahead; he had a very small quota, and he said, "I am going ahead, and I am going to plant my cane and take my chances on the market. He guessed right, because the act was invalidated. I do not know what would have been the result had the act not been invalidated. That is the situation. But as far as the majority of the growers were concerned the little planters, last year, planted their acreage quota in order to comply.

Mr. Biermann. I understood Congressman Mouton to say something to the effect that if Louisiana were to get a bigger quota they would be able to buy more coal, more steel, and more Iowa pork, and the profits would be distributed around the country.

Mr. Giles. That is our belief.

Mr. Biermann. Would that apply to Florida if you were to increase Florida's quota?

Mr. Giles. The same thing would apply to Florida if they had additional purchasing power.

Mr. Biermann. The same thing would apply to Puerto Rico; the same thing would apply to Hawaii, and generally, I suppose, it means that if you have more money you are going to have more money to spend, and that is no special argument, is it, why the quota for Louisiana should be increased; the same argument would apply to Florida, Puerto Rico, and Hawaii. Is that not correct?

Mr. Giles. Yes. But it would not apply to Cuba. We say that Cuba has a preferential right; given a preference; while they are given a preference they do not buy as much pork, for instance, as is bought by Louisiana.

Mr. Biermann. But they buy Iowa pork.

Mr. Giles. Yes, but not to the extent that Louisiana buys it. Our negroes are pork eaters.

Mr. Biermann. I think you are mistaken about that; I think if you will look up the statistics you will find that Cuba buys much more pork than Louisiana does.

Mr. Giles. I feel I would be safe in saying that Louisiana does buy much more than Puerto Rico; we have in Louisiana many negroes, and they are great consumers of pork; they are great eaters of the salt shoulders, greater than any other section of the United States.

Mr. Gilchrist. If you assume that there would be no calamity anywhere, and no drouth, and assume that all the sugar-producing areas have normal crops, and assume further that I want to give Florida the additional quota, according to your argument then where would I subtract that additional quota; from what area would it come? You would like to get more production of cane sugar; Louisiana is asking for a greater quota, and where would it have to take that additional quota from; would it be from Cuba, assuming the Secretary does make a good estimate of consumption?

Mr. Giles. Well, for the present, talking of the beet

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people, I am willing to take my chances, and I believe the beet people will not grow their full quota this year or next. Then with the increased consumption in the amount of—

Mr. Gilchrist. (Interposing) Well, we are speaking of permanent legislation. What reason, then, have you for thinking that you can expect that the beet people will not raise their quota which the Secretary would give them under this bill?

Mr. Giles. Well, I formed the impression from talking with different people from the beet growing areas, those who are farming, that they do not expect to raise their quota, either this year or the next.

Mr. Gilchrist. Well, the time will come when they do grow their quota assuming that the Secretary does not make any bad guesses, and inasmuch as he comes from Iowa I must assume that; then the cane sugar area would have to be reduced somewhere in order to give Louisiana some more cane sugar, would it not?

Mr. Giles. Yes.

Mr. Gilchrist. In other words, you have your eyes cocked on Cuba; is that the place where the cane sugar area is going to have to be reduced? Is that your thought?

Mr. Giles. No, sir; as a matter of fact it is my firm belief that the increase in consumption will take care of it without any trouble.

Mr. Gilchrist. That would be taken into consideration in this estimate of the Secretary. Suppose he allots the increase in consumption; that is what I am getting at.

Mr. Giles. But, the beet area has a fixed quota of 1,550,000.

Mr. Gilchrist. You want to assume that; that is what I am asking you, please. Now of course, probably I should not assume any such thing; probably I am wrong in asking you to assume the thing that the bill does assume, or that it is based on a good assumption, but the latest assumption was that the beet people would raise the full amount of their quota and Louisiana does know what the other countries are doing. Now I have assumed that the consumption of sugar, the amount that is needed, is properly figured by the Secretary of Agriculture. Now would you answer the question with regard to the amount that is named in this bill, whether the quota is correct? There would be no other place to take it from, would there, except Cuba; is that correct?

Mr. Giles. As I understand the bill—

Mr. Gilchrist. I am not talking about the bill; I am talking about my assumption. I do not know anything about sugar. I know I eat it three times a day; it is the only thing I eat my fill of three times a day, and I am simply asking you to make the assumption as I have stated it, and tell me about where you are going to make up this deficit, to get this increased quota; from what cane sugar area are you going to get it for Louisiana?

Mr. Giles. Well, as I stated—

Mr. Gilchrist. That is all, Mr. Chairman.


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# SUGAR BULLETIN

Entered as second-class matter April 13, 1925, at the post office at New Orleans, La., under Act of March 6, 1879.

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Baton Rouge, La.

We stand for the encouragement of Home Industries as against Foreign Competition.

Vol. 15 NEW ORLEANS, LA., APRIL 15, 1937 No. 14

## The Strange Case Of The Sugar Exchanges

The question is frequently propounded to us why are there two Sugar Exchanges in New Orleans. It is usually accompanied by the remark that one would be enough. The subject seems sufficiently interesting to warrant some study and discussion.

The two institutions involved are the Cane Products Trade Association and the Louisiana Sugar and Rice Exchange. The President of the Cane Products Trade Association is Mr. George L. Billeaud, a leading Louisiana sugar producer whose factory is in Lafayette Parish, and the President of the Louisiana Sugar and Rice Exchange is Mr. E. J. Garland, who is Secretary of the Delgado-Albania Plantation Commission of the New Orleans Municipal Government. They are both men of much more than average intelligence.

We have before us a list of the membership of each institution and it is through an analysis of these membership lists that some light may perhaps be thrown on the anomalous situation that has produced two Exchanges in an environment where one would certainly suffice to perform all the necessary functions of such an establishment. These functions are very necessary, but their nature is such that any duplication of them interferes with their usefulness. Their scope is well understood and a Sugar Exchange must perform them if it is to actually be what it purports to be.

There are some firms or individuals in the sugar business, fortunately not more than two or three, who are evidently trying to perpetuate the existence of two exchanges by belonging to both. We are somewhat at a loss for an adjective to use in describing this attitude. They are doing the Louisiana sugar industry a distinct disservice.

We find that the membership lists of the two Exchanges are numerically about equal, each having between 90 and 100 members, but a certain percentage of these members are what we shall call for lack of a better name, nondescripts. We use this term, without intending any disparagement, to designate the members who are not engaged in any way whatever in the production, sale or purchase of sugar, molasses or syrup, and whose identification with a Sugar Exchange has been brought about by some incentive that is outside of our knowledge. That they contribute anything to the establishment of correct and demonstrable quotations or to the sum of the generally recognized functions of a Sugar Exchange, is impossible.

In the case of the Louisiana Sugar and Rice Exchange the percentage of this element in the membership rises to the extraordinary total of 60% of the whole, while in the case of the Cane Products Trade Association it is 30%. The most plausible explanation of this state of affairs is that both Exchanges have been compelled to accept, or even perhaps solicit, such extraneous elements, to gain sufficient revenue to support themselves separately, whereas it would not be necessary, or would be necessary only to a limited extent, if only one institution had to be maintained.

We now proceed to further analysis of the membership lists, in an effort to find some clue to the extraordinary situation that has, for some two years, resulted in the existence of two

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407 Carondelet St., New Orleans

Reginald Dykers, Editor

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Exchanges. The most conspicuous feature that attracts attention (after the remarkable one of a Sugar Exchange predominantly composed of people who are not in the sugar business) is that the people who are actually in the sugar business, in one way or another, and who comprise about 40% of the Louisiana Sugar & Rice Exchange membership and about 70% of the Cane Products Trade Association membership, are split up largely on the line of whether they are producers of sugar, or the representatives of producers of sugar, or whether they are buyers of sugar or the representatives of buyers of sugar.

We find, for instance, that in the membership of the Cane Products Trade Association there are 57 producers of sugar and selling agents of producers of sugar while in the Louisiana Sugar and Rice Exchange there are only 20 members in that class. Per contra the buyers of sugar in the membership of the Louisiana Sugar and Rice Exchange outnumber the buyers of sugar in the Cane Products Trade Association almost two to one. Is it possible that we are unearthing here a *casus belli?* If so, it is one that should not be tolerated. It is too malodorous.

Insofar as the Louisiana sugar industry is concerned, the chief interest the producers of sugar and the chief interest the growers of cane (whose crops are sold at figure based on the price of sugar) have in a Sugar Exchange is as a fountain head of correct, reliable, official price quotations. It is of course these people whom *The Sugar Bulletin* represents—the sugar planters, be they farmers or factory owners, who, after all, are the ones who support on their shoulders the whole structure of the sugar industry in Louisiana, in all its ramifications. They want, and are entitled to, accurate quotation making machinery and no aggregation of butchers and bakers and candlestick makers can give it to them.

A quotation, to be reliable, pre-supposes a complete awareness of the sales made and the prices received, every day and it is of course essential that a permanent record of same be kept. Such being the case only a group of men who have a comprehensive personal knowledge of what sales are made and at what prices can make an authentic quotation. We cannot state it as a certainty but we believe it to be a fact that more than 80% of all the Louisiana sugar and about 90% of all the Louisiana raw sugar (on which the price of cane is based), is sold by or through the members of the Cane Products Trade Association and is therefore reported to its quotation committee. If that be so, then were it not for the existence of that quotation committee, and the records that are kept of its findings, there would be no authentic quotation on Louisiana raw sugar obtainable and that would be just too bad. So preponderant are the sales through the members of the Cane Products Trade Association that their quotations have never been disputed, but as long as another Exchange exists a conflicting quotation may come out of it resulting in deplorable confusion.

One more relevant fact and we shall have completed this preliminary discussion of the strange case of the Sugar Exchanges. Away back in 1904, when the Public Belt Railroad Commission was organized, the law creating it specified that the Louisiana Sugar and Rice Exchange, then resplendent in all its glory, should have the right to name two members of the Commission. This right still adheres, although the resplendence and the glory have departed, and human nature being what it is such appointments please and gratify men of certain temperaments. It is a harmless vanity but if a selfish determination to enjoy it contributes to the perpetuation of a superfluity of Sugar Exchanges it should be swept aside in the interest of the sugar industry at large.

That is all. We do not undertake now, in this article, to suggest ways and means of correcting the situation. These may, and we hope will, be offered from more resourceful minds. We have attempted merely to publicly dissect and ventilate an unfortunate condition of affairs and throw as much light on it as possible. The remedy should be in the hands of those whose interests are most vitally affected, the sugar, molasses and syrup producers themselves.

In any event the type of service that is being contributed by the Cane Products Trade Association must be carried on by somebody. It is imperative that it should be, else market facts, including the price of cane, will be something that is left to the fortune-tellers.

# Disease Resistance And New Seedling Selection In 1936 At The U. S. Sugar Plant Field Station, Houma, La.

*By E. V. Abbott, R. D. Rands, and E. M. Summers, Division of Sugar Plant Investigations, Bureau of Plant Industry, United States Department of Agriculture.*[1]

The principal objectives of the disease-testing and primary seedling-selection program at the Houma station were discussed in *The Sugar Bulletin* a year ago.[2] During 1936 both general and specific objectives have remained the same as outlined in that article, with particular attention focused on two of them, namely, the urgent necessity of discovering a vigorous, mosaic-resistant substitute for Co. 281 and the desirability of finding more suitable disease-resistant, early-maturing varieties adapted to heavy and mixed soils.

The comparatively low yields obtained with Co. 281 because of mosaic, its relatively low vigor, and susceptibility to root rot, and the large acreage that must be devoted to it for windrowing purposes are sufficient to counteract much of the gain from superior but nonwindrowing varieties on the remaining acreage. While great benefits from mosaic roguing and seed selection of Co. 281 are already being realized on several of the larger places, replacement by a resistant cane possessing greater vigor would greatly increase the general level of production.

For the large areas of mixed and heavy soils Co. 290 and C.P. 29/116, in spite of some red-rot damage, are at present the only generally satisfactory yielding canes. However, late maturity and harvesting increase the freezing and expensive transportation hazards, which latter are now being mitigated to some extent by partial substitution by C. P. 28/11. This variety is resistant to disease and early maturing, but unfortunately is seriously damaged by storms, and this introduces a third hazard. The disappointing sugar yields obtained with Co. 290 and C. P. 29/116 last fall on heavy soils in many areas have served to emphasize the importance of at least supplementing heavy soil plantings of these varieties with disease-resistant, earlier-maturing canes lacking the hazards and harvesting disadvantages of those now available.

Progress has been made toward the solution of these problems by the discovery of better crosses which are furnishing larger numbers of seedlings combining resistance to both mosaic and red rot with desirable type and apparent earliness. Such larger numbers, particularly in the 1933 and 1934 series should greatly increase the chances of finding varieties combining also high yielding, windrowing, and other indispensable qualities being studied by specialists on these subjects at the various stations. A brief summary of the 1936 disease tests and primary seedling selection work at the Houma Station is presented in this article.

[1]The writers are indebted to D. D. Sullivant and Mathias Stelly for most of the chemical work referred to in this report and to Robert Tippett and Arthur Pellegrin for assistance in red rot and mosaic inoculations.

[2]Abbott, E. V., Summers, E. M., and Rands, R. D. Disease resistance tests and seedling selections in 1935 at the U. S. Sugar Plant Field Station, Houma, La. Sugar Bulletin, V. 14, No. 12, pp. 3-7, March 15, 1936.

## OUTLINE OF WORK AND GENERAL RESULTS

The seedling testing program, as reorganized in 1935 and outlined in last year's report, has been continued this year with some modification to acommodate larger numbers of seedlings. Under this program the pathologists are officially responsible for all new seedlings received from the cane breeder until the primary (or pathology) selections are determined, assigned C. P. numbers, and the available seed distributed.

During 1936 this program included the study of 7,574 seedlings in the field, of which 4,119 were artificially inoculated with mosaic, 998 with the red-rot fungus (laboratory method), and 2,318 were analyzed (from a 10-stalk sample) for Brix and sucrose. Many of these disease tests and chemical analyses were made for comparison of crosses, and these data were communicated to Dr. G. B. Sartoris, the cane breeder. He is, therefore, able to place greater emphasis on those crosses which give the largest numbers of seedlings combining disease resistance and early maturity with the other indispensable qualities for which he is breeding.

On the basis of the above tests and appearance of the seedlings in the field, 117 new C. P. numbers (35 from the '33 series and 82 from the '34 series) were assigned by Dr. Sartoris in 1936. Seed cane of these varieties was distributed to the Louisiana Experiment Station and to agronomists at sugarcane field stations conducted by the Bureau of Plant Industry. As explained later, many additional numbers from the '34 series could have been assigned but there was insufficient seed for distribution. They were, therefore, increased at Houma for distributing in 1937. Since many of the primary selections of 1936 and previous years are unfortunately more or less susceptible toward one or more diseases, continued pathological study must be given them and more accurate determination of their particular degree of susceptibility determined while they are under test by the agronomists.

Three categories of selections are referred to in this report. "Field" selections are those chosen by the pathologists from the original nursery on the basis of freedom from mosaic and other leaf diseases, vigor, erectness, stalk size, ease of shucking and general appearance desired in a commercial cane. "Primary" (or pathology) selections are those chosen from the field selections following a red-rot test and sucrose analysis. These are assigned C. P. numbers and the available seed turned over to agronomists at Baton Rouge, Houma, Canal Point, and the sirup-cane stations. "Agronomic selections" are made by these investigators at the various stations from the increase plantings and the best seedlings are eventually sent to test fields on cooperating plantations for more critical study of commercial adaptability. Thus, if an otherwise valuable seedling shows some susceptibility to disease, it is followed through all these later stages of testing to learn how much of a

hazard this particular weakness may be when and if it is released.

## DISEASE REACTION OF AGRONOMIC SELECTIONS

### C. P. 1929 Series

Five unreleased seedlings of this series (C. P. 29/94, 99, 103, 120, and 137) have been subjected to additional pathological tests and observed for disease occurrence in tests of other investigators at the station or in test fields. The following summary supplements the data presented in last year's report.

C. P. 29/94 and 29/120 have the best pathological record of these five. They are classed as commercially resistant to red rot and thus far have not shown mosaic at the Houma station.

C. P. 29/99 was shown in field trials to be much more resistant to mosaic than Co. 281, only occasional stools having contracted the disease during the 1936 epidemic, with some indication of late summer recovery of plants infected in the spring. This seedling has repeatedly proven very susceptible to red rot by the laboratory method of testing. In order to determine whether this weakness will prove a serious handicap in the field, several plantings were made in various parts of the sugar belt in the fall of 1936. Preliminary examinations of some of this seed cane in the spring of 1937 have not revealed sufficiently extensive red-rot injury to warrant condemning the variety on this basis. Although the disease spreads quite rapidly through the stalk once it gains entrance through borer holes or from the cut ends, the variety apparently resists infection through the root buds. It was susceptibility to this type of infection that contributed so greatly to the disastrous stand failures of P.O.J. 213; therefore, C.P. 29/99 can hardly be placed in the same category with P.O.J. 213. It is rather difficult to judge red rot performance this year, however, because injury to seed cane by this disease is always light during a mild winter like the past one. Nevertheless, the P.O.J. 213 planted adjacent to the C.P. 29/99 in the tests mentioned showed severe injury from red rot and germination was considerably reduced. Past experience with class 4 (very susceptible) red rot canes, however, on which there seems to be a cumulative effect of the disease or a multiplication of strains of the red rot fungus specially adapted to them, indicates that eventually considerable losses from red rot will be suffered by them.

C.P. 29/103 and C.P. 29/137 have reasonably satisfactory pathological records. They are rated in class 3 to red rot (comparable with Co. 290) and have thus far remained free of mosaic at the Houma station.

None of the above-mentioned seedlings equals Co. 290, C.P. 29/116, and 29/142 in vigor of growth and resistance to root rot essential for use in heavy soils. Nevertheless, they show greater adaptability than Co. 281.

### C. P. 1931 Series

Practically all of the advanced selections in this series are low in resistance to one or other of the major diseases. Most of them have been rated in Class 3 (susceptible) to red rot and Nos. 31/114, 160, and 296 show a high percentage of mosaic. C.P. 31/551 and 561 have remained free from mosaic and are apparently well adapted to black lands. Should they prove earlier maturing and satisfactory in yield, they might become potential competitors of Co. 290 on such areas. However, their red rot resistance is no greater than this variety.

### C. P. 1932 Series

In this series the agronomic selections are generally much more resistant than any of the earlier seedling progenies. Out of 19 selections studied through second stubble, only two (C.P. 32/202 and 209) showed a high percentage of mosaic, 18 were rated commercially resistant to red rot and three numbers (C.P. 32/124, 126, and 146) combined high resistance to the two diseases. At the Houma station, these three have proved inferior to C.P. 807 in stubbling qualities on heavy soils which indicated lack of high adaptability for such planting. C.P. 32/206, 324, 336, 339, and 348 also combined freedom from mosaic with commercial resistance to red rot and appeared more resistant than the above three to unfavorable factors associated with heavy soils.

### C. P. 1933 Series

A total of 293 selections from this series, including 205 distributed from Houma in 1935, have remained under pathological study. Out of the 44 numbers replanted by the agronomists, 21 were free from mosaic and commercially resistant to red rot, eight of these proving highly resistant. C.P. 33/224, 372, 394, 397, 420, 445, and 472 showed also evidence of adaptability to heavy soils.

C.P. 33/224, 228, and 229 are resistant varieties now established at the test fields, in addition to C.P. 33/121, 243, and 253, which latter are unfortunately more or less susceptible. The 33/121 has shown 50 percent mosaic at the Houma Station, but the behavior of the disease in nursery plots suggests that possible extensive recovery may occur under conditions of low secondary spread. It is resistant to red rot. C.P. 33/243 has not contracted mosaic but has proven very susceptible to red rot, while C.P. 33/253 is commercially resistant to red rot but has developed a severe type of mosaic. Since these two varieties have been comparable with C.P. 28/19 in sucrose in small-scale comparisons, further studies are being made of their pathological weaknesses.

## NEW PRIMARY SELECTIONS

### C. P. 1933 Series

As already mentioned, 35 new C.P. numbers were assigned in 1936 to additional selections from first stubbles of complete progeny nurseries of this series. The numbers include C.P. 33/483 through 33/517. Due to immature Florida seed cane or other causes, these seedlings were evidently slower in starting and were not detected as promising enough for selection as plant-cane in 1935. Seventeen of the 35 proved in preliminary tests to be resistant to mosaic and commercially resistant to red rot.

### C. P. 1934 Series Seedlings Potted at Houma

The large-scale experiment in growing and testing the first stools of new seedlings at the Houma Station, which was made possible through financial aid provided by the American Sugar Cane League, was discussed in *The Sugar Bulletin* last year. It is now possible to make a preliminary report on the performance of the selections made from these seedlings.

A total of 4,463 seedlings, or 92 percent of the plant-cane numbers from 17 crosses, survived as first stubble, each seedling being represented by the single original stool. In the fall of 1935, 658 field selections were made from the plant cane, of which 319 were increased following preliminary pathological and hand refractometer tests (by George Arceneaux).

It was recognized at the time of selection in 1935 that many additional promising numbers would ap-

pear in the stubbles in 1936. This proved to be true and a very liberal field selection was made in September. 943 numbers, or 21 percent of the entire progenies, were selected and analyzed for sucrose during the second week in October. 454 of these were numbers selected in 1935, and 489 were new selections in 1936. Out of the latter group, 237 were chosen showing a satisfactory analysis and freedom from, or no marked stunting by, mosaic. They were replanted in mixed land in November and will be candidates for C.P. numbers in 1937.

C.P. numbers (34/1 to 34/33) were assigned in November 1936 to 33 of the 319 seedlings which had been increased in the fall of 1935. From preliminary tests, 20 of the 33 numbers remained free from mosaic and commercially resistant to red rot and four of these 20 combined such resistance with early maturity (as judged by a single 10-stalk sample), being equal or superior to C.P. 28/19 in sucrose as plant cane on mixed land early in November. Three others that were as high in sucrose as C.P. 28/19 had a less satisfactory pathological record. These seedlings have not yet been tested on heavy soil. When it is considered that at least four disease-resistant, early-maturing varieties (the commercial adaptabilities of which remain to be determined) were obtained from this lot of seedlings, which were saved through the aid granted by the League (and it is possible that others may still be added to the list), it does not appear too optimistic to predict that this investment will be returned many fold in benefits to the industry.

**1934 Series Canal Point Selections Planted at Houma in the Fall of 1935**

Except for complete progenies, these seedlings represent the first consignment to Houma under the modified program whereby less severe eliminations are made at Canal Point and assignment of C.P. numbers following disease and chemical tests is later done at Houma. Unfortunately, due to shortage of light land at the Station, these seedlings, totaling 3,022, were planted in heavy clay under extremely adverse conditions with the result that only 478 germinated in the spring of 1936 and survived. The situation became known in time to save some of the numbers (mostly from previously untested crosses) at Canal Point, and 798 such replacements were received and planted in light soil in October, 1936.

Two hundred and eighty-three field selections were made from the surviving seedlings, and after pathological and chemical tests, C. P. numbers (34/34 to 34/82) were assigned to 49 of them. Twenty-seven of the 49 remained free from mosaic and were rated commercially resistant to red rot. Several of these 27 are very promising as judged by the preliminary data available, apparently combining great vigor in heavy soil, freedom from mosaic, and a fair degree of red rot resistance with comparatively high sucrose content. Five of the group, rated as Class 2 canes pathologically, were equal to or approached C.P. 28/19 in sucrose.

## SEEDLING FAMILY TESTS

In last year's report, comparisons were presented of several of the outstanding crosses in the 1931 to 1934 series with respect to percentage of mosaic and field selections. It is now possible to present more complete data on the 1933 and 1934 series.

Studies were concluded during 1936 on 14 complete progenies of the '33 series representing a total of approximately 3,000 seedlings planted in light soil in the fall of 1934. Table 1 presents a summary of data from 10 of the crosses furnishing selections. Crosses B, D, M, and T were outstanding in the number of primary selections, B being most promising in combining fairly high average sucrose with high percentages of field selections resistant to both mosaic and red rot. However, a good many of the seedlings are poor in cane type. Cross T also gave many selections resistant to red rot, but unfortunately a higher percentage of seedlings with mosaic (51 percent). In D and M the situation was reversed—high resistance to mosaic and only about a third of the selections commercially resistant to red rot. The number of seedlings for reliable judgment of the crosses is probably inadequate in all but the last combination. Nevertheless, the data show important indications as to the relative value of these crosses.

**Table 1.—Comparison of 10 seedling families of '33 series in susceptibilty to mosaic and red rot and percentage of primary selections**

| Cross | Parents | | Seedlings surviving as first stubble | | Field Selections | | | | Primary selections | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | Analyzed Oct. 14-21, 1936 | | Red rot ratings | | | |
| | Female | Male | No. | Percent mosaic | No. | Avg. percent sucrose | No. tested | Percent commercially resistant | No. | Percent of whole family |
| A | C.P. 29/142 X C.P. 27/108 | | 285 | 28 | 120 | 7.51 | 84 | 45 | 31 | 10.9 |
| B | C.P. 31/289 selfed | | 183 | 27 | 48 | 8.95 | 50 | 64 | 27 | 14.8 |
| D | C.P. 1165 X C.P. 27/108 | | 160 | 19 | 74 | 8.39 | 57 | 32 | 32 | 20.0 |
| F | P.O.J. 2725 X Co. 214 | | 108 | 21 | 23 | 7.32 | 21 | 14 | 5 | 4.6 |
| G | C.P. 31/117 X C.P. 28/100 | | 184 | 93 | 74 | 7.14 | 27 | 44 | 11 | 6.0 |
| H | C.P. 29/307 X C.P. 27/48 | | 193 | 43 | 64 | 7.41 | 57 | 28 | 21 | 10.9 |
| K | C.P. 28/9 X C.P. 28/100 | | 78 | 89 | 15 | 8.52 | 10 | 20 | 4 | 5.2 |
| M-N | C.P. 1165 X C.P. 28/44 | | 236 | 31 | 91 | 8.75 | 69 | 29 | 36 | 15.3 |
| R | C.P. 28/9 X C.P. 31/288 | | 179 | 45 | 44 | 9.61 | 36 | 36 | 13 | 7.3 |
| T | Co. 281 X U.S. 1694 | | 675 | 51 | 336 | 8.79 | 241 | 54 | 115 | 16.9 |
| Total | | | 2281 | | 889 | | 652 | | 295 | |

In table 2 the mosaic and selection data are summarized for 17 crosses of the '34 series (grown from original stools at Houma). Final judgment of the value of a cross is usually based on the number of primary selections (i. e., those assigned C.P. numbers) rather than field selections, which have not been reduced in number by red rot tests, but in the present series only about one-half of the field selections thus far have been worked over for primary selection purposes. However, all field selections were analyzed as first stubble, so that a preliminary evaluation of the crosses on the basis of the number of field selections and the number increased following a chemical analysis should be of interest.

On the basis of the number of field selections combining satisfactory resistance to mosaic and leaf diseases with desirable field characters, such as vigor, erectness, size of stalk, and ease of shucking, the following three crosses were outstanding among the 16 progenies for which 100 or more seedlings were available for study: Cross 40, of which 50.5 percent of the seedlings were selected; Cross 73, with 45.2 percent, and Cross 80, with 41 percent. Cross 73 was particularly outstanding in vigor, but the number of selections was reduced because of the tendency toward excessive lodging of the stubbles.

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Table 2.—Comparison of 17 seedling families of '34 series in susceptibility to mosaic and percentage of selections

| Cross | Parentage | Seedlings Surviving as first stubble | | Percentage of whole progeny selected | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Number | Percent with mosaic | In field | After sucrose analysis |
| 15-P | Co. 281 X U.S. 1694 | 677 | 22 | 22.4 | 15.9 |
| 17 | C.P. 29/142 X C.P. 1165 | 247 | 9 | 23.2 | 13.5 |
| 23 | C.P. 32/189 X C.P. 1165 | 263 | 55 | 21.5 | 8.8 |
| 25-P | Co. 281 X P.O.J. 2878 | 389 | 17 | 12.8 | 8.5 |
| 28-P | Co. 281 X C.P. 1165 | 434 | 15 | 19.2 | 14.3 |
| 30-P | P.O.J. 2221 X U.S. 1694 | 175 | 4 | 37.4 | 9.1 |
| 31-P | P.O.J. 2221 X P.O.J. 234 | 130 | 6 | 29.1 | 13.1 |
| 33-P | Co. 290 X Honey | 149 | 28 | 5.8 | 3.8 |
| 35-P | Co. 290 X Red X | 125 | 43 | 10.9 | 6.3 |
| 36-P | Co. 290 X White African | 185 | 44 | 11.7 | 6.9 |
| 40 | C.P. 29/307 X C.P. 29/252 | 105 | 36 | 50.5 | 23.4 |
| 46-P | P.O.J. 2725 X C.P. 1165 | 422 | 8 | 17.6 | 9.7 |
| 52 | Co. 281 X C.P. 29/138 | 405 | 30 | 15.4 | 10.5 |
| 63 | C.P. 27/139 X C.P. 28/105 | 37 | 3 | 35.9 | 10.3 |
| 73 | U.S. 1643 X C.P. 29/284 | 379 | 41 | 45.2 | 24.6 |
| 77 | C.P. 28/9 X Uba Marot | 155 | 37 | 31.7 | 2.4 |
| 80 | C.P. 28/11 X C.P. 27/38 | 186 | 22 | 41.0 | 31.5 |
| | Total | 4,463 | | | |
| | Average | | | 25.4 | 12.5 |

When analyzed for sucrose (October 6-13, 1936), the three crosses (Numbers 40, 73, and 80) giving the highest percentage of field selections ranked tenth, eleventh, and ninth, respectively, in average analyses (sucrose data not presented in table 2). Cross 28-P, with an average sucrose analysis of 9.38, was first in earliness, followed in order by 25-P, with 8.83; 15-P, with 8.72; 52, with 8.36; and 46-P, with 8.36. The individual seedling with the highest sucrose, 14.07 in October, came from Cross 46-P. It is of interest to note that Co. 281 was the female parent in four of the five earliest-maturing crosses.

In the last column of the table appear the percentages of seedlings from each progeny which were increased from the original stools. Cross 80, C.P. 28/11 X C.P. 27/38 (the former a seedling of Co. 281 X U. S. 1694 and the latter of D-74 X U. S. 1694), ranked first in percentage of seedlings replanted. The seedlings of this cross are predominantly of the C.P. 28/11 type in growth characters, but unfortunately, not as early maturing. Cross 73, U.S. 1643 X C.P. 29/284 (the latter a seedling of Co. 281 X U. S. 1694) ranked second. This cross gave a large number of field selections of rather low quality, the average analysis of 7.46 placing it among the greenest of the crosses analyzed.

Cross 40, C.P. 29/307 X C.P. 29/252 (the former a seedling of Co. 281 X P.O.J. 2878 and the latter carrying blood of P.O.J. 2725, Kassoer and U.S. 1694), ranked third with 23.4 percent of the progeny being replanted. Represented by only 105 seedlings as first stubble, this cross gave a high percentage of field selections which proved to be of rather low quality.

Following these three crosses, of which approximately one-fourth to one-third of the seedlings were replanted, are grouped 15-P, with 15.9 percent replanted; 28-P, with 14.3 percent; and 17, with 13.5 percent. Although the percentage of field selections in these progenies was lower than in the three previously discussed, the high quality of a considerable number of individual seedlings indicated that they are of a particular value in breeding for early maturity.

Progeny studies like the above have been con-

ducted by the writers during the past three years on a total of 8,900 seedlings from 43 crosses. The results show that at least 10 of these crosses, all new combinations, are very promising for furnishing superior disease-resistant varieties.

## The Situation In Washington

**The outstanding occurrence in Washington during the past few days, insofar as sugar is concerned, was the letter of the U. S. Secretary of Agriculture to the Chairman of the Subcommittee of the House Committee on Agriculture, in which the Secretary submitted for the consideration of the subcommittee a revised sugar bill drawn up by his Department in which numerous changes from the Jones Bill, inimical to the Louisiana sugar industry, are included. As this is written the Subcommittee of the House Committee on Agriculture is considering the text submitted by Secretary Wallace and has given out no information. Our Washington office, under the circumstances, has supplied nothing for publication in this issue of *The Sugar Bulletin*, the situation being such that nothing could be said that is not merely speculative.**

**It is believed that when the Sugar Bill is finally enacted into law it will be found that Louisiana has been treated fairly, but if our Washington office refrains from comment at this time we must respect their silence, and emulate it.**

## "Resettlement" Cane

The United States Government is very actively engaged in rehabilitating sugarcane land and sugarcane farmers in Louisiana through what is known as the Federal Resettlement Administration. When we remember—and right now none of us is in danger of forgetting it—that the U. S. Secretary of Agriculture is recommending to Congress the passage of a law that will, if enacted, curtail sugar production in Louisiana something like 30%, it seems paradoxical that the Government should, at the same time, be spending, or if you prefer, lending, large sums of money for the purpose of putting back into cane a large acreage of land and a large number of people not now in that business. When we say a large acreage we speak advisedly for the so-called "resettlement" acreage in cane at the present time, for harvest this coming fall and winter, is no less than 15,110 acres or say 5% of the normal Louisiana cane acreage, and as it is all plant cane it may as well be conceded that it will produce much more than 5% of the sugar. The Government says, in effect, "We are going to make you produce some more, but we will not let you produce as much as you now do."

Alice would find a new Wonderland, far more diverting than that of the March Hare, the Mad Hatter, the Duchess and the Mock Turtle if she would wander around Washington. The "resettlement" acreage in the sugar parishes of Louisiana, now planted in cane, is as follows:

| *Parish* | *Acres* |
|---|---|
| Lafayette | 250 |
| Ascension | 610 |
| St. James | 1000 |
| St. John | 1000 |
| Avoyelles | 500 |
| Assumption, Lafourche | 1200 |
| St. Landry | 100 |
| Rapides | 100 |
| Iberia, St. Mary | 1200 |
| Iberville, West Baton Rouge | 1500 |
| Plaquemines, Jefferson | 1500 |
| St. Bernard | 500 |
| Pointe Coupee | 1000 |
| St. Charles | 1400 |
| St. Martin | 1000 |
| Terrebonne | 1700 |
| Vermilion | 550 |
| Total | 15,110 |

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Dr. Charles E. Coates
Dean, College of Pure and Applied
Science, La. State University
Baton Rouge, La.

We stand for the encouragement of Home Industries as against foreign competition.

Vol. 15 NEW ORLEANS, LA., MAY 1, 1937 No. 15

## Hope Nears Its Realization

Everybody engaged in sugarcane growing in Louisiana will be delighted to know that the following item is contained in the Agricultural Appropriation Bill that has already passed the House and is now coming before the Senate:

> Sugar-plant investigations: For sugar-plant investigations, including studies of diseases, and the improvement of sugar beets and sugar-beet seed, $428,700, of which $100,000 shall be immediately available for the establishment of a sugarcane station at Houma, Louisiana: *Provided,* that not to exceed $12,500 of this latter amount may be expended for the purchase of land; *Provided further,* That the limitations in this Act as to the cost of farm buildings shall not apply to this paragraph.

The American Sugar Cane League has already arranged for the purchase, with its own funds, of twenty acres of land near Houma on which the Government Agricultural Building above referred to will be located. On the same twenty acres the League will itself erect out of its own funds an additional building costing about $25,000, which will be handed over to the U. S. Department of Agriculture as a gift, when completed. All this points to a fine, modern, well-equipped Federal agricultural center in the heart of the Louisiana sugar district, the value of which to the Louisiana sugar industry will be inestimable.

It is considered highly improbable that any hitch will develop in the Senate, or with the President, in connection with the passage of the $100,000 appropriation, as the same item was in last year's Appropriation Bill and it was approved by both the Senate and President Roosevelt at that time. It was omitted from last year's Bill at the last moment because of an unfortunate technicality that had no bearing on the merit of the legislation.

For the past two or three years the American Sugar Cane League has been indefatigable in its efforts to secure better accommodations for the Federal scientists at Houma. The buildings erected there some eight or ten years ago by the League, and which served as the nucleus around which the Experiment Station has been developed, have proved inadequate to take care of the tremendous expansion of the Louisiana sugarcane industry that is indicated by the results obtained from the new canes introduced through the co-operation and assistance of the U. S. Government, and through which the production of sugar in Louisiana is scheduled for very substantial increase unless the possibilities not only opened up, but clearly proven, are interfered with by a sugar quota that will put a check-rein on them. That would seem to be an economic crime from the Government's own standpoint and would stultify the Government's own magnificent scientific accomplishments through its ably administered Bureau of Plant Industry.

THE
# SUGAR BULLETIN

407 Carondelet St., New Orleans

Reginald Dykers, Editor

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## Report from Washington

*(By C. J. Bourg)*

The first stage in the legislative journey of the Sugar Bill has given the encouragement that the Sub-Committee before whom the hearings were held, have recognized at least in substantial part the merits of the case for Louisiana.

We are very grateful to the Members of this Committee for their recommendation to improve the quota status of the Louisiana sugar industry. But it is important that we ourselves must be ever mindful of two facts: first, that the recommendation of the Committee does not *completely* take care of all sugarcane farmers in Louisiana; and second, that we still have before us the major engagements of securing a favorable report from the Committee on Agriculture and a majority vote of the House of Representatives on the Bill, to be followed by similar action by the Committee on Finance and the Senate, with probable conferences between the two Chambers on disagreeing provisions, and finally the signature of the President. Obviously, we are not "out of the woods" with respect to the Sugar Act of 1937, but the battle is before us with prospects of intensive fighting.

The following is a statement of the position taken by the Louisiana Congressional Delegation showing the reasons why Louisiana must have an improved basic sugar quota:

1. Louisiana production in 1936 was 383,000 tons and the most conservative estimate of 1937 growing crop is 425,000 tons. The new varieties of sugarcane furnished by the Department of Agriculture are increasing progressively the per acre yield of sugar. The original Jones Bill provides a quota for the State of Louisiana and Florida of 360,000 tons, which is less than that produced in 1936 in Louisiana alone.

2. The Jones-Costigan Act in 1934 was pitched on a consumption market in the United States of 6,452,000 tons. Since then the estimate of consumption requirements has increased 230,000 tons. For the Secretary of Agriculture to make effective his intention to reduce the net price of sugar in an amount similar to the proposed tax on sugar, he will necessarily have to increase his estimate of consumption requirements *immediately* after Congress passes the Jones Bill. All we are asking is an increase in *basic quota* of 140,000 tons more than is provided in the Jones Bill, now under consideration. Let Congress make the continental cane quota 500,000 tons, allowing all other areas to keep their present quotas. Giving this increase to Louisiana and Florida can be accomplished without disturbing in any sense the quota of the beet producing States or depriving them of their proportionate share of increased consumption. As a matter of plain fact, as long as the present deficit in the beet producing area continues, this improvement in the quota status of Louisiana and Florida would not prevent any offshore area from marketing one pound of quota sugar, because Louisiana and Florida would have the right to furnish the entire beet deficit, anyway. But by giving to the continental cane area a *basic quota* in keeping with its present production, the uncertainties of what acreage we can plant from year to year would be removed and the Louisiana grower would be allowed "a profitable farming operation" on an efficient basis. Some Western beet States are expanding with newly constructed plants and acreage planted to beets for the first time: Louisiana now asks to be allowed to operate her existing plant capacity and to restore to sugarcane culture acreage already demonstrated to be best suited to that cash crop. Louisiana is not asking for expansion, but merely to get back to the normal production, which was 415,000 tons 30 years ago.

3. There is some misunderstanding about the *importance* of the *basic quota* to be allotted to the continental areas. Section 301(c) states definitely that no grower shall receive any benefit payment at all if sugar is "marketed (or processed)" from sugar beets or sugarcane in an amount "in excess of the proportionate share for the farm" needed "to meet the quota" of the area.

Now, when a tax is imposed on sugar and the Secretary reduced the price of sugar proportionately "for the protection of the consumer", the grower has to receive a benefit payment, otherwise he loses money on his whole crop.

Thus, the Louisiana grower has no alternative but to reduce his production to his "proportionate share" of the quota. The Bill presents this dilemma: if the grower produces more than his "proportionate share", he gets no benefit payments *at all;* but if he is unable to produce more than his basic quota (because he cannot produce profitably without a benefit payment, as long as there is a tax) then he will have no sugar to fill the area's share of increased consumption or the deficit of another area.

Therefore, it is plain that the quota of the continental cane area must be increased, since the growing crops in Louisiana and Florida which were

planted months ago is estimated to produce in 1937 between 460,000 and 500,000 tons. The final figures on the 1936 crop are 435,000 tons, of which Louisiana alone produced 383,000 tons.

There is no justification whatsoever for any claim that the States of Louisiana and Florida would have unlimited production under the Jones Bill, because by the provisions of Section 209(b) and Section 301(c) any production "in excess of the proportionate share of the farm" could neither be "processed" nor "marketed" at a profit within the law. The *basic quota* essentially determines profitable production, whether directly or indirectly.

4. In order to permit the thousands of small growers in Louisiana to become eligible for the benefits of the Bill, it is necessary to give each one the right to plant a fixed acreage. This means many new growers will receive allotments and all small growers will be brought up to a reasonable acreage. We cannot do a complete or satisfactory job, unless Louisiana has an adequate *basic quota.*

5. The original Jones-Costigan quotas still are proportionately sufficient to give a square deal to all producing areas, excepting Louisiana. We were convalescing from plant diseases when the quotas were set in 1934. The Department of Agriculture's scientists were presenting us with new varieties which in 1935 gave Louisiana an increase in production of 20.5% on acreage increased only 12%. Louisiana and Florida were allowed a "final quota" in 1936 of 392,000 tons, but our growers were penalized at $2.00 and $3.00 per ton for growing the cane that produced the sugar in excess of 220,200 tons. We want to avoid that situation in new legislation.

The original Jones Bill partially recognized the merit of our claim when it fixed the continental cane quota at 360,000 tons, which is an increase of 100,000 tons; our difference is only one of degree. Our request is for an adequate *basic quota* which can be given us without changing by one pound the relative marketing advantages of the other areas, for at least several years. We believe that with Roosevelt Recovery, the increase in consumption will keep pace with re-adjustments in continental production and actually absorb the relatively nominal increase needed to provide "equitable treatment" for Louisiana.

6. The Democratic platform adopted in 1936 states:

> "We have kept our pledge to agriculture to use all available means to raise farm income toward its pre-war purchasing power. The farmer is no longer suffering from * * * three-cent sugar. * * "
>
> "We will continue a fair-minded administration of agricultural laws, quick to recognize and *meet new problems and conditions.* * * * " We favor the production of all the market will absorb, both at home and abroad, plus a reserve supply sufficient to insure fair prices to consumers. * * * "

In order to carry out these platform pledges to the sugarcane growers of Louisiana, it is essential that they be given an adequate *basic quota.*

The Louisiana Congressional Delegation has also taken the position that the refining of sugar should be restricted as far as possible to continental United States. To this end they have recommended that there should be no improvement in the right of the domestic islands to bring in refined sugar, and that the amount of refined sugar which Cuba is permitted to import should be reduced.

At the time of preparing this article the full Committee on Agriculture is meeting to consider the recommendations of the Sub-Committee. We are therefore constrained to limit our discussion to these recommendations.

The form of the Bill recommended by the Sub-Committee is that of an entirely new measure, which contains provisions selected from the original Jones Bill and from the Administration proposal submitted by Secretary Wallace, plus several new ideas developed by the Sub-Committee.

There have been few changes of importance in the definitions, except that liquid sugar is defined to contain 8% or less of total soluble non-sugar solids. and sirup of cane juice produced in continental United States is specifically excluded, which means that neither quotas nor the tax on sugar apply against continental cane sirup.

The quota set-up is a new development arrived at by the Sub-Committee. First when the requirements of consumers are 6,528,000 short tons or less, the quotas shall be:

| | |
|---|---|
| Continental beet sugar producing areas | 1,550,000 |
| Continental cane sugar producing area | 440,647 |
| Philippine Islands (estimate of duty free quota) | 970,000 |

The remainder shall be prorated among the other areas on the following basis:

| | |
|---|---|
| Hawaii | 25.94 per centum |
| Puerto Rico | 22.08 " " |
| Virgin Islands | .24 " " |
| Cuba | 51.03 " " |
| Foreign countries other than Cuba | .71 " " |

If the requirements of consumers are more than 6,528,000 short tons, such increase shall be added to the above quotas on the following basis:

| | |
|---|---|
| Continental beet | 41.75 per centum |
| Continental cane | 11.87 " " |
| Hawaii | 24.93 " " |
| Puerto Rico | 21.22 " " |
| Virgin Islands | .23 " " |

With regard to deficits, there are two groupings. If the Secretary determines that any continental area or Hawaii or Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands will be unable to market its quota. he shall revise the quotas for the other such areas by pro-rating on the basis of the percentages for increased consumption. Should all of the named domestic producing areas be unable to market the original deficit, the balance shall be assigned to Cuba. In the same manner deficits from Cuba, the Philippine Islands or any other foreign country will be first allotted to the named domestic producing areas and the balance, if any, to the other foreign areas.

The allotments of any quota or proration thereof shall be made in any area by taking into consideration: (1) the sugar processed from sugar beets or sugarcane produced by the growers within their proportionate share; (2) the past marketings; (3) or the ability to market the allotment or proration of such quota. Such allotments or proration shall be subject to public hearings and provision is made for appeals therefrom to Federal Courts.

The refined sugar quotas are set as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Hawaii | 29,616 |
| Puerto Rico | 126,033 |
| Virgin Islands | None |
| Philippine Islands | 80,214 |
| Cuba | 300,000 |

Although all liquid sugar is to be charged against the quota of each area marketing same, the following special liquid sugar quotas are provided:

| | |
|---|---|
| Cuba | 7,970,558 gallons |
| Dominican Republic | 830,894 |
| Other foreign countries | None |

The conditional payments to growers are based upon five requirements, 1. no child labor; 2. minimum wages and maximum hours for all laborers; 3. that each grower shall not produce more than his proportionate share of sugar. The production of sugarcane is not controlled but the delivery of sugarcane for making sugar must not be in excess of the proportionate share for the farmer. The allotment for each farm is to be made in terms of planted acreage of sugar beets or in terms of planted acreage, weight or recoverable sugar content of sugarcane. It is the announced intention of the Sugar Section that acreage allotments will be made in Louisiana. 4. That the producer who is a processor shall pay fair and reasonable price for sugarcane. 5. That the farming practices shall preserve and improve fertility of the soil and prevent soil erosion, "such practice to be consistent with the reasonable standards of the farming community in which the farm is situated."

The requirements with respect to wage rates shall not apply to work performed prior to the enactment of the Act and the allotment of the proportionate share for each farm shall not apply to the marketing of the first crop harvested from sugarcane planted prior to the enactment of the Act.

Deficiency payments are authorized for crop failure and for partial crop damage or loss, to be determined by the failure, damage or loss in the "local producing area," which may be the factory district or the Parish in Louisiana.

The benefit payments remain at the base rate of 70 cents per 100 pounds of sugar, except for reductions in such base rate when the farm production of sugar is within the following intervals of short tons, raw value:

| | |
|---|---|
| 500 to 1,500 | .050 |
| 1,500 to 6,000 | .075 |
| 6,000 to 12,000 | .100 |
| 12,000 to 30,000 | .125 |
| More than 30,000 | .250 |

It will be noted that the first classification of 250 to 500 tons in the original Jones Bill has been eliminated.

The Sub-Committee has made no recommendation on the rate of tax but will leave that question for the decision of the Committee on Agriculture. Thus the 75c per 100 pounds remains in the Bill as submitted, although there is a marked trend towards reinstating the 50c tax of the Jones-Costigan Act.

There is a new provision that any tax on unsold sugar will be rebated if the tax is terminated.

The Committee has recommended refund of any tax collected on sugar manufactured in or imported from the Philippine Islands prior to July 1, 1938, but after that date there will be no further refund to the Philippines.

The Bill of the Sub-Committee does not contain provisions whereby the quotas would only continue as long as there is a tax on sugar, or that the tax would only continue as long as there are quota.

# Some Real Statistics

Mr. W. M. Grayson, Technical Advisor of the Grower-Processor Committee of Louisiana, has compiled some very complete statistical data on the operations of the Louisiana sugar factories in 1934, 1935 and 1936. The excellence of his compilation is such as to entitle him to a high compliment on it, as well as to something more substantial than a compliment. In addition to the actual operating data Mr. Grayson has compiled a series of tables and charts in which he analyses the different sugarcane purchase contracts that have been in use in Louisiana in 1936, showing the growers' return and the processors' margin, as well as the expected yield of 96 test sugar, money value of the sugar produced and percentage of this total value paid for cane. Mr. Grayson goes further and submits data on several contracts that he calls "theoretical" contracts, which he believes may possess advantages over those that have been in use, for reasons which he explains. No more comprehensive digest of an important, and somewhat involved, subject, has ever come under our observation.

So far as the data on actual sugar factory performance is concerned, Mr. Grayson begins by dividing the factories of the State into five groups, as follows:

Group I—Six roll mills, with or without knives and eight roll mills without knives.

Group II—Eight and nine roll mills with or without knives.

Group III—Eleven roll mills with knives.

Group IV—Twelve and thirteen roll mills with knives.

Goup V—Fourteen roll mills and larger, with or without knives.

In all this grouping a crusher is counted as two rolls, and a sixth grouping shows the factories of the State as an entirety.

In the State group, embracing the average of all the Louisiana factories, the work done during the 1936 grinding is shown as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Crop Days | 80.03 |
| Time Lost—% Total Time | 18.61 |
| CANE: TONS GROUND | 4,941,235 |
| % Total Cane Ground | 100.00 |
| Tons Ground Per Hour | 51.98 |
| Extraction N. J. % Cane | 75.51 |
| Sucrose Extraction | 91.26 |
| Saturation % Cane | 14.77 |
| Fiber % Cane | 13.22 |
| Java Ratio | 78.63 |
| ANALYSES: | |
| Crusher Juice Brix | 16.11 |
| Brix Factor (Final Report) | 97.27 |
| Sucrose Factor (Final Report) | 94.87 |
| Normal Juice Brix | 15.67 |
| " " Sucrose | 11.84 |
| " " Purity | 75.56 |
| Factory Sirup Brix | 59.23 |
| Bagasse:—Sucrose | 3.09 |
| " Moisture | 47.97 |
| " Fiber | 47.86 |
| Press Cake Sucrose | 5.25 |
| Residual Juice Brix | 6.20 |
| SUCROSE BALANCE: | |
| Suc. in Molasses % Cane | .930 |
| " " Press Cake % Cane | .096 |

| | |
|---|---|
| " " Undetermined % Cane | .201 |
| " " Bagasse % Cane | .858 |
| " " Total Losses % Cane | 2.085 |
| " ' Sugars % Cane | 7.729 |
| Total Sucrose in Cane | 9.814 |
| Av. Rolls per Tandem | 9.13 |
| Av. Crusher Per Tandem | 1.03 |
| Av. Knives Per Tandem | .90 |
| Lbs. 96° Sugar M.&E. T/C | 160.993 |
| Gals. Final Mol. M.&E. T/C | 6.520 |
| Boiling House Effciency | 99.290 |
| Gals. Oil or Oil Equiv. T/C | 5.940 |

If we start to analyze the varying results obtained by comparing the effectiveness of the work done by the factories in the different groups we run into a mass of interesting data that is too great to handle in an article of this sort. The extraction N. J. % cane, for instance in the different groups, in 1936, was as follows:

Group I, 65.59; group II, 71.61; group III, 75.99; group IV, 76.39; group V, 76.49.

The sucrose extraction runs from 85.41 in the first group up to 92.59 in group 5. The average for the State was 75.51 and 91.26, respectively.

In a letter accompanying his voluminous report Mr. Grayson offers to answer any questions or explain any of his figures, on request.

# A Government Building in Prospect

In view of the expected passage of the Agricultural Appropriation Bill containing an item of $100,000 for the erection of a building at the U. S. Sugar Plant Field Station at Houma, La., the following statement made by Hon. Robt. L. Mouton of the 3d Louisiana Congressional District to the Committee that considered the bill before it was reported to the House is of great interest. Congressman Mouton's appeal was evidently effective, as the item asked for was favorably reported by the Committee and has since been passed by the House.

*Mr. Chairman & Gentlemen of the Committee*:

I appear before you today to briefly solicit your approval of an item appearing in the Budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1938, calling for an appropriation of $412,000 for sugar plant investigations, of which $100,000 is to cover the establishment of a sugarcane station at Houma, Louisiana.

I wish to bring to the attention of you distinguished gentlemen that it is generally conceded that to scientific research should be attributed practically all progress made in the field of Agriculture. This holds true, as well, in the progress made in our Louisiana sugar industry. Through the efforts expended at the present small station at Houma our sugar production has risen from approximately 47,000 tons in 1927 to the enormous increase of 383,000 tons last year.

The present station was established by the Federal Government in the year 1925 when it was definitely learned that a certain cane disease was prevalent throughout Louisiana. A small temporary building and a staff of two pathologists was provided by the Government for the purpose of checking this disease and developing new varieties of cane which would resist its devastating effects. At once the American Sugar Cane League composed of farmers throughout Louisiana threw itself into the fray in a cooperative spirit and provided three additional buildings in successive order.

The Government immediately recognized the cooperative attitude of our people and as building after building was erected by the League, additional personnel was furnished by the Government, until at the present some fifteen specialists, assisted by from six to ten additional specialists and three clerks along with ten to twenty-five laborers, depending upon the season, are engaged in this work.

While great progress was being made by these experts, it was under the most adverse circumstances.

A general crowded condition existed which lent towards a lowering of efficiency. As though matters were not bad enough, the Gods of Fate conspired to deliver a death blow which struck in the year 1934 in the form of a conflagration completely destroying one of the buildings—the Chemistry building. This, of course, practically paralyzed operations. The chemists were herded together in what was once known as the fertilizer room of one of the buildings. One can readily understand how these men cannot be expected to perform their best in such cramped quarters.

The need for recognizing the exigency of this appropriation is acute. It is generally agreed throughout our entire sugarcane producing area that if we are to continue to progress, the Houma Station must be replaced by a modern up-to-date building to provide adequate quarters. We feel that it is to this station's work that we owe our marked increase in production.

For these and underlying reasons, which would be too lengthy to relate, I respectfully ask the approval of this item by you Gentlemen. You will be taking a step that will make it possible for the domestic sugarcane industry to benefit by the latest methods of scientific research that will enable us to take our rightful place among the continental sugar producing areas.

I thank you.

*Bob Mouton*
*Member of Congress*
*Third Louisiana District*
*April* 13, 1937

# In Union There Is Strength

An encouraging and impressive occurrence in Washington during recent weeks has been the solid front presented by the Louisiana Congressional Delegation in behalf of the sugar industry of their state. Although sugar is produced in somewhat less than half of the Parishes of Louisiana the far flung principles involved in the issue and its economic importance to the Commonwealth as a whole brought to its aid as a unit the Congressmen from all eight of the Louisiana Congressional Districts. They issued a joint statement to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives, the text of which we print below.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen of the Committee of Agriculture:

We appreciate the opportunity to present our views relating to H. R. 5326, which is now before your Committee. The views that we are submitting are in addition to the evidence submitted by our Dean and Colleague, Honorable Rene L. DeRouen, who

joins in the statement with the other seven Members of the House representing the State of Louisiana.

It is our purpose to support this proposed legislation but in doing so we trust and expect that this bill will be so amended that the legislation will be both equitable and beneficial. As you have had so much statistics relating to sugar and the historical background of its production it is needless for us to delve to any extent in this phase of the situation, except to say that, Louisiana has a historical record that dates back over a hundred years as a sugar producing State. In the producing of sugar the industry has met with many ups and downs, and when favorable conditions prevailed the State of Louisiana has gone right to the front in the production. At such times this condition has reflected substantial benefits in the general business affairs of the State.

Whatever legislation that will be entrusted to the Department of Agriculture to administer, we believe will be administered fairly for the sugar producing areas so for that reason we do not think we should hamstring their duties with too much legislative detail. It appears to us that the fundamentals should be clearly recited and the details left to the Department.

We observe there are two important items that merit emphasis.

The first is the question of allotment to the sugar producing areas. We believe that quotas should be given to Continental United States that would be ample to absorb their full production and other quotas to make the total needed for consumption should be arrived at by giving to those areas outside Continental United States, allotments based upon fairness and in order with their relationship with the United States. We recognize that Continental United States has a market for sugar far in excess of its production and it should enjoy every privilege in connection therewith.

The argument that sugar should be produced entirely in off shore areas on account of its cheapness and some of our products given reciprocal treatment is not sound, because if that is the policy that we should adopt, then we can find many commodities and articles that can be produced or made in foreign lands much cheaper than can be produced or manufactured by us. It is not a question of how cheap we can produce a commodity, but it is a question of self preservation in caring for those who are nearest to us, and in this instance it is our fellow citizen, and more particular when the consumer cannot expect a lasting market with a lowered price and will pay no more than the present approximate price. We can understand and sympathize with our neighbors who are anxious to obtain the lion's share of a protected and profitable market. However, if the situation was reversed, we do not believe our neighbors would take products from us at the cost to their own producers only to prove a spirit of friendliness notwithstanding reciprocity, so we ask Gentlemen, when considering the quota you will bear in mind that the farmers of the Continental cane areas without any law in the Statute Books have in the ground now for 1937, seed cane that will produce under normal conditions in 1937, approximately 500,000 tons of sugar, so any quota for the cane areas under that figure would be a great injustice to these farmers, and deprive the use of a vast amount of acreage especially adapted to cane growing in addition to the many farmers and helpers that will lose the employment.

Now we come to the second item of importance, that is the question of permitting the importation of refined sugar. We have several large refineries in our State who give employment to many besides paying every form of tax that is levied. We do not believe that any refined sugar should be imported. The business of refining sugar should be retained for our own labor, the refiner and with those who supply many articles in the art of its perfection. It requires 107 pounds of raw sugar to make 100 pounds of refined sugar so if the sugar that is imported is confined to raw sugar that would mean more labor in refining, more supplies, more ship tonnage and more handling generally for our own citizens without any additional cost to the consumer and a fair deal to refiners. We do not think an American investor who refines sugar in a foreign land, thereby avoiding our taxes, labor and other incidentals to our citizens should be given any different consideration than any other foreign refiner, nor is he entitled to any. While we believe that every consideration should be given our foreign friends, Cuba included, our acts should be tempered with a favored consideration for our own citizens.

Let us consider Cuba's treatment in this bill and what do we find? We see where Cuba is given a quota of 1,948,000 tons with a privilege of exporting to us 22 percent of the quota in direct consumption sugar. Now the quota given to Continental

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**Raceland Factory**
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United States including beet and cane areas is 1,910,000 tons, which is less than Cuba by 38,000 tons. Cuba has a reported population of 4,008,000 people. Our State has 2,200,000 people and combined with the population of Florida almost equals the entire population of Cuba and here are these two States allotted a quota of 360,000 tons* against Cuba's 1,948,000 tons, over five times as much. Cuba can never complain of our friendship, we fought a war for her freedom at a great expense both in life and money and for which we are still paying and will continue to do so for many years. We have been ever generous in all of our dealings with Cuba and want to continue so but in this sugar question lets be a little more generous for our Americans and a little less for Cuba. You should remember Cuba enjoys other sugar markets besides ours for distribution and you may also know Cuba has taken from us the share of the foreign market we did enjoy on refined sugar and you may also know that Cuba only a few years ago exported to Continental United States 23,000 tons of refined sugar, which amount has steadily increased until last year it reached 456,000 tons. We say this should be stopped and we ask that the bill be amended so that the quota of raw sugar for Continental United States be allotted in keeping with what the cane and beet areas can produce and the additional requirements be taken from those sugar producing areas in amounts that are fair and in consideration to their National relationship, and that no refined sugar be included in the quota to Cuba and in other areas outside of Continental United States refined sugar quotas be kept at a minimum.

RENE L. DE ROUEN, M. C. 7th Dist.
JOHN K. GRIFFITH, M. C. 6th Dist.
NEWT V. MILLS, M. C. 5th Dist.
J. O. FERNANDEZ, M. C. 1st Dist.
ROBERT L. MOUTON, M. C. 3rd Dist.
OVERTON BROOKS, M. C. 4th Dist.
A. LEONARD ALLEN, M. C. 8th Dist.
PAUL H. MALONEY, M. C. 2nd Dist.

*The sub-committee of the Committee on Agriculture subsequently recommended an increase to slightly over 440,000 tons.

## Sugar For Waterproofing

The British Sugar Beet Review says:

"Cloth waterproofed with sugar is the newest product of textile chemists. Acetic acid—which is responsible for the sourness of vinegar—appears to be made to combine chemically with cane sugar.

The resulting substance, called sucrose octo-acetate, can be dissolved and applied to cloth. When the cloth is ironed, its surface becomes glossy and waterproof. Sucrose octo-acetate has other uses, such as making insulating paper and various plaster substances: It is only the first of a whole series of industrial compounds using sugar as raw material, says the paper."

## CONFERENCE ROOM

**The American Sugar Cane League Takes pleasure in offering a comfortable**

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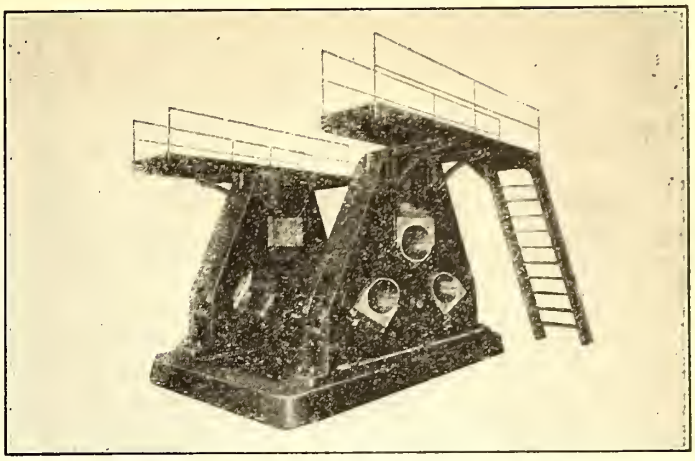

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THE
# SUGAR BULLETIN

Entered as second-class matter April 13, 1925, at the post office at New Orleans, La., under Act of March 6, 1879.

We stand for the encouragement of Home Industries as against foreign competition.

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## We Need Not Be Old-Fashioned To Be Fair

We hear a great deal nowadays to the effect that the interest of American producers of exportable products would be enhanced by granting to Cuba a larger share of our domestic sugar market than Cuba has enjoyed under the Jones-Costigan Amendment. Under that law, which is very favorable to her interests, Cuba has been exporting to the United States about 2,000,000 tons of sugar per year which has sold at prices almost two cents per pound higher than the prices obtained by Cuba for sugar sold by her on the world market. The price differential has given Cuba $40,000,000.00 annual advantage in the United States market as compared to any other market and that fortunate island has both the United States market and the world market to sell sugar in. Cuba has, moreover, a surplus of sugar at all times available for use in supplying any deficit that may occur because of crop disaster in other producing areas. This ace in the hole the Cuban sugar producers play close to their chests and they know its value. We cannot help feeling that the Cuban sugar producers themselves, who are practical business men, have not registered the protests against the report of the Sub-committee on Agriculture that they are alleged to have made.

The balance of trade between the United States and Cuba is now largely in Cuba's favor—Secretary Hull says so himself—and adding to this balance by granting the island an increased sugar quota would not be justified by any theory of national economics.

So far as the decline of imports of sugar from Cuba during the period of 1928-32, and the reduced Cuban market demand for American farm products in that period is concerned, this reduction of imports of Cuban sugar was due to the expansion of sugar production in Hawaii, Porto Rico and the Philippine Islands and to the same obvious and well known situation that caused a similar or greater decrease in business between Pennsylvania and Wisconsin, Texas and California, or Delaware and Virginia during the same period. That was the period that included the world wide depression. During that same period Louisiana was still suffering from the effects of mosaic disease, which disease was brought to us by the importation of a diseased variety of sugarcane before the present quarantine regulations had been enacted. This cane caused damage from which the Louisiana sugar industry has taken years to recover, and during its period of recovery it certainly did not present a normal picture from which its status might be fairly judged. The formula used under the Jones-Costigan law to fix quotas adopted an arbitrary method of allocation. An arbitrary group of years were named as representing a fair basis for a historical background and the years so selected covered the convalescent period of Louisiana production to which we have just referred and when Louisiana protested and asked that the base period of 1909-14 be used as representing a normal cycle in the history of the State's sugar industry the suggestion was declined. Section C of the law was approved, however, and accepted as a means of granting a quota status for Louisiana that could be reconciled with the facts, but Secretary Wallace steadfastly refused thereafter to acknowledge either

THE
# SUGAR BULLETIN

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Reginald Dykers, Editor

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The American Cane Growers' Assn.
The Producers & Mfrs. Protective Assn
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**any obligation or any inclination to use the provisions of Section C for granting relief to the producing area of Louisiana, thereby causing the State to take a loss of $1,500,000.00 in penalties that were assessed against cane growers whose base acreage of cane was actually within the number of acres granted in their production adjustment contracts made with the Government. The ironical injustice of this is apparent from the fact that this excess production of tons of cane from controlled acres of cane occurred through the growing of newer and better varieties of cane released to the Louisiana growers by the U. S. Department of Agriculture itself.***

**Louisiana produced in 1936 385,540 tons of sugar, raw value, according to the Government's own figures. If the proper historical basis and not an arbitrary and unrepresentative basis which reflected a crop disaster epoch had been selected in the Jones-Costigan law, for instance the same period that the Jones-Costigan Law selected for fixing parity prices, 1909-14, Louisiana's proportionate share of the general quota for all areas would have been satisfactory then and a true background would have been established on which to base calculations as to Louisiana's quota now.**

**Louisiana has been producing sugar for a longer period of time than most of the other producing areas, including continental beets, and no single State in the Union produces as much sugar now as Louisiana does. The suitability of an area for producing something can be best determined by ascertaining if it has been successfully produced there and if so for how long. No other test equals that. Louisiana has been producing sugar successfully on a commercial scale for 142 years. The Louisiana sugar producers spend their money for American products, pay every sort of tax that is assessed and have no access to the world sugar market.**

**Louisiana was admitted to the Union April 30th, 1812. It has all the right to proper consideration that can be claimed for any area and yet is in danger of being unjustly treated. Fair play is not necessarily an attribute of the horse and buggy days. If it is let us go back to them. Those old-fashioned vehicles at least bore no glittering foreign license plates.**

*(See article entitled "Federal Sugar Statistics" in this issue).

## News From Washington

*(By C. J. Bourg)*

The Committee on Agriculture has read over the entire Subcommittee Bill (usually referred to as Committee Print No. 2) and had each provision explained to them. They are now reported to be practically agreed on all points, with three major decisions yet to be made finally:

(1) The rate of tax and base rate of payment to growers;
(2) The readjustment of quotas to meet objections of the Secretary of State;
(3) The yardstick to be used for controlling the price of sugar.

The majority sentiment of the Committee at this time (May 11th) is in favor of 1/2c tax and 60c per one hundred pounds payment. There are still some members who are willing to yield to the Secretary of Agriculture on a 3/4c tax, but most Members of the Committee are inclined to doubt that a 3/4c tax would be entirely absorbed by the industry and they are unwilling to impose a tax that would force an increase in the price of sugar. The record of the processing tax under the Jones-Costigan Act shows that the price of sugar remained the same after the tax was removed. It should be stated that on the basis of the average beet contract a 1/2c tax and a 60c payment would net the grower about the same as a 3/4c tax and a 70c payment. Under the Louisiana purchase contract the grower might fare better, depending upon whether the price of raw sugar is to be further reduced.

The Committee feels that the present Bill amply takes care of Cuba, nevertheless the impression prevails that if the Committee yields to the Secretary of State's request for additional tonnage to be used in connection with reciprocal trade agreements, that the State Department might be less opposed to the Bill, although they would still protest against the treatment being given to Cuba.

### Price Control

The proposed Sugar Bill in Section 201, states in part:

"The Secretary shall make such additional allowances as he may deem necessary in the amount of sugar determined to be needed to meet the re-

quirements of consumers, so that the supply of sugar made available under this Act shall not result in average prices to consumers in excess of those necessary to make the production of sugar beets and sugarcane as profitable on the average, per dollar of total gross income, as the production of the five principal (measured on the basis of acreage) agricultural cash crops in the United States."

This portion of Section 201 certainly appears to be the "heart" of the Bill and can either make or break the continental sugar industry.

As this reads "such additional allowances", it would indicate that this portion of the Act is only to be used when the price of sugar is high and the price could be reduced by increased quotas. It would not appear that this portion could be used if the price of sugar were too low, as there is no provision for reducing quotas.

Also the question arises as to whether a similar profit as on five principal crops is to be the minimum profit on sugar beets or sugarcane, or whether it is to be the maximum profit. Persons who should know interpret this section as meaning that the price of sugar shall be so controlled by quotas that the profit made on sugar beets or sugarcane shall be the same as the profit made on the five principal cash crops in the United States. Therefore, this average profit on the five principal cash crops becomes a ceiling for profits on beets or cane rather than a minimum. For this reason it is highly important to know what these five cash crops are and what the profit (or loss) on them has been in the past.

### Five Principal Cash Crops

The Bill refers to "five principal (measured on basis of acreage) agricultural cash crops in the United States". The largest crops in the United States on basis of acreage are:

| Position | Crop | Average Acreage Harvested 1928-1932 |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Corn | 103,341,000 |
| 2 | Wheat, all | 60,115,000 |
| 3 | Hay, all tame | 55,170,000 |
| 4 | Cotton | 40,541,000 |
| 5 | Oats | 40,015,000 |

What is a "cash crop"? It is reported that the Department considers the five crops listed above as the five principal cash crops. According to common terminology, hay and oats would not be considered cash crops. However, as the acreage of these crops are so large, we assume that corn, wheat, tame hay, cotton, and oats would be the five crops which would be used.

### Profit?

In order to determine the profit on these five crops the following must be known:

1. Cost of producing per acre
2. Yield per acre
3. Farm selling price per unit

The Department of Agriculture publishes in "Crops and Markets" the cost of producing corn, wheat, cotton, and oats. These costs are arrived at by sending questionnaires to a limited number of farmers. The acreage on which cost figures are received is much less than 1% of the total acreage. Naturally, it is only the good farmer who keeps a cost system and who would answer such a questionnaire. This good farmer no doubt has greater yields per acre than the average farmer and therefore his costs per unit are less.

The Yearbook of Agriculture shows for the United States and for the individual States the total acreage harvested, the farm value of the crop and the yield per acre. The profit is not to be figured in relation to cost because the Bill states, "as profitable on the average, per dollar of gross income", so the profit is figured in percent of gross income.

Although cost figures are available on only 3 commodities instead of the five required by the Bill, when we see that these 3 commodities during the past ten years averaged a 42.30% loss on gross income, and in no single year have they averaged a profit, the sugar industry could not exist when by law the raising of beets or cane is forced to be unprofitable. Furthermore, compare U. S. average with individual States average for the 10 year period as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| U. S. | 42.30% loss |
| Michigan | 18.33% loss |
| Ohio | 13.60% loss |
| Colorado | 104.99% loss |
| California | .48% loss |

and it shows the impracticability of using the United States average profits. In the United States average we have the marginal land producer, the highly inefficient farmer, the lazy farmer, etc., all of which tends to pull the U. S. average down in yields. Sugar beets and sugarcane are raised on good land only, the farmers are above average farmers, the processor is continually urging better and improved farming practices and the use of fertilizer.

If cotton is one of the five crops, and a disease or blight of some sort hits the cotton grower, making him take a large loss on his crop, why should the beet grower in Michigan or the cane grower in Louisiana be forced by legislation to take a loss?

### Marketing Period

Sugar is generally marketed during a crop year from October 1 to September 30th. How can the Secretary so regulate quotas and the price of sugar during this crop year period so that the profit on this crop will be the same as on the five other crops when he does not know the profit on these other crops, or the cost of raising sugar beets or sugarcane until the crop year is almost over?

How can the profit be determined on the five other crops when they do not know when the grower sells his crops? Using the season average price is not correct as the grower waits on a rising market and gets the benefit of this rise. For example, beans have sold as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Oct. 1, 1936 | 5.20 |
| Nov. 1, 1936 | 6.15 |
| Dec. 1, 1936 | 6.00 |
| Jan. 1, 1937 | 6.50 |
| Feb. 1, 1937 | 7.75 |
| Mar. 1, 1937 | 7.70 |
| Apr. 1, 1937 | 7.25 |
| 7 mos. avg. | 6.65 |

and it would greatly affect the profit or loss whether the average price was taken, or whether the $5.20 or the $7.75 price was taken.

### Suggestion

Instead of having the last part of Section 201 establish a maximum profit on sugarcane or sugar beets in relation to other agricultural crops, our suggestion is that this be amended so that when the

price of sugar to the consumer is unreasonably high, the Secretary could then, if he desired, increase the quotas, but in so doing he could not reduce the retail price of sugar below the relationship which the index price of sugar bore to the index prices of all foods during 1932-34, as shown in official publications of the Department of Labor.

It appears that the reason for having some sort of a limiting clause is to comply with the message of the President in which it was mentioned that the price to the consumer would not be affected by the tax. If sugar prices went up and down in relation to other food commodities, the consumer should have no objection.

During the period of 1932-1934, the average index price of Sugar and Sweets was 61.2 and the average index price of all foods was 69.6 taking the 1923-1925 average as 100. So during this period the relationship between the index price of sugar and the index price of all foods was 87.98%.

The following table shows the conditions as they actually existed during past few years according to Department of Labor Serial No. R. 505 (page 9).

| Year | Index All Foods | Index Sugar and Sweets | Index Relationship | Retail Price Sugar Sweets |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1929 | 104.7 | 74.6 | 71.25% | 6.53 |
| 1930 | 99.6 | 70.1 | 70.38% | 6.13 |
| 1931 | 82.0 | 64.7 | 78.90% | 5.66 |
| 1932 | 68.3 | 58.4 | 85.51% | 5.11 |
| 1933 | 66.4 | 61.5 | 92.62% | 5.38 |
| 1934 | 74.1 | 63.8 | 86.10% | 5.38 |
| 1935 | 80.4 | 65.0 | 80.84% | 5.69 |
| 1936 | 82.1 | 64.4 | 78.44% | 5.64 |

The method proposed by the Secretary is such that it makes it mandatory that the maximum profit on beets and cane be maintained at not more than the average profit on five crops. The above proposed method sets a minimum standard for the retail price of sugar and it is not mandatory for the price to be maintained at this level, but supply and demand under a quota system well administered will result in fair prices to producer and to consumer alike, as it did in 1936.

# Federal Sugar Statistics

*(By C. J. Bourg)*

The United States Department of Agriculture Bureau of Agricultural Economics has issued its General Crop Report as of date May 1, 1937. This is an interesting document at this particular time because on pages 5 and 6 and on pages 13 and 14, are to be found the official statistics covering the 1936 sugar beet and sugarcane crop for the States of the United States.

According to this official report the crop of 1936 was harvested from 227,000 acres in Louisiana as compared to 239,000 acres harvested for the crop of 1935. The report makes the following comment in that regard.

> "The area harvested for sugar decreased 5 percent from the preceding year but was 2 percent more than the area harvested in 1934; but the increase in cane production for sugar was nearly 20 percent, due for the most part to the use of new varieties of seedstock."

Thus we have the official report of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics which declares that practically all of the increased production in Louisiana last year was due to new varieties of sugarcane, which had been furnished by the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture. This accomplishment is a great compliment to the practical merit of and the results obtained by the scientific research work of the Department of Agriculture, for which we are very grateful and which we believe should receive the commendation of all persons interested in scientific farming. It is interesting to note in the same report the following:

> "Colorado produced 335,000 tons which is an increase of 12 percent in sugar production over the preceding year. California increased production 30 percent to 310,000 tons; and Michigan took third rank with 116, 000 tons, an increase of 16 percent over 1935."

Comparing the experience of 1936 of the four largest sugar producing States in the United States we find that California increased production at a much greater rate than any other State and we also find by strange coincidence that the increase in production for Louisiana is almost exactly on the same percentage as the average of the three leading beet sugar producing States, as shown by the above quotation.

The references to Louisiana and Florida production made in the General Crop Report are as follows:

SUGARCANE: Louisiana harvested 5,665,000 short tons of sugarcane during the 1936 season, which was 858,000 tons more than in 1935 and 1,933,000 tons above the harvest of 1934. The quantity of cane actually put through the mills for sugar was 4,854,000 tons, in comparison with 4,087,000 last year, and 3,019,000 tons two years ago. In addition, 370,000 tons of cane were used in the production of sirup, and 441,000 tons were reserved for seeding the 1937 crop. The average yield of cane for sugar was 21.4 tons per acre. The yield of sugar per ton of cane averaged 159 pounds. The production of sugar, as made, was 378,084 tons, equal to 385,540 short tons raw value 96° test. "The area harvested for sugar decreased 5 percent from the preceding year but was 2 percent more than the area harvested in 1934; but the increase in cane production for sugar was nearly 20 percent, due for the most part to the use of new varieties of seedstock."

Molasses production, including blackstrap, was 32,616,000 gallons, compared with 25,614,000 last year, and 18,277,000 gallons two years ago. The production of edible molasses was 5,227,285 gallons. Sirup production increased over the 1935 season by 813,000 gallons to 7,729,000 gallons.

The crop of 1936 was harvested under many handicaps, but there were no serious losses notwithstanding the warm and rainy January following freezing weather in December. Grinding operations

ended on February 3, concluding one of the longest grinding seasons in recent years.

In Florida 51,000 tons of sugar were produced, (raw value 96° test) compared with 42,000 tons last year, and 28,000 tons in 1934. Acreage harvested for sugar amounted to 17,000 acres, with an average yield per acre of 33.2 tons of cane, which averaged 181 pounds of sugar (96°) per ton of cane. A total of 565,000 short tons of cane were ground for sugar. The production of blackstrap molasses totalled 3,673,000 gallons compared with 3,292,000 gallons from the 1935 crop.

## Secretary Ickes On Sugar

Secretary Ickes, of the Interior Department, says it has "been calculated" that each additional average acre of domestic sugar production unavoidably results in a reduction of our export market in an amount equal to the value of the product of three acres of cotton, or three acres of corn or six acres of wheat. He has sent that statement out, through the Administration's unrivalled Publicity Bureau, all over the United States.

The Secretary is careful not to say that every acre in domestic sugar production is actually known to have prevented the sale abroad of the product of three acres of cotton, three acres of corn or six acres of wheat. He knows that such an abstruse statement as he did make sounds well, from his point of view, and cannot be proven or disproven, and that the average reader will accept it without analysis.

But let us admit, just for the sake of argument, that what he says is so.

The sugar from one acre is worth more than 3 acres of cotton, or 3 acres of corn or 6 acres of wheat and even if it was worth no more, but only just as much, is there any ground for the theory that it would be better to raise 3 acres of surplus cotton, 3 acres of surplus corn, or 6 acres of surplus wheat and go to all the trouble, risk and expense of finding a foreign market for it than to raise one acre of sugar and sell it for spot cash on a waiting and insufficiently supplied home market which would otherwise have to be supplied by importations?

## The Buck Horns

The trophy offered by the American Sugar Cane League each year to the Louisiana factory grinding the largest tonnage of cane has been won, for the 1936 grinding, by the Raceland Factory of Godchaux Sugars, Inc. The trophy consists of a pair of Buck Horns, from which is suspended a silver plate, suitably inscribed. Raceland ground 252,242 tons of cane.

This is the fourth time in succession that Raceland has won the trophy and we have exhausted our vocabulary, insofar as compliments and felicitations are concerned, so this time we will just confine ourselves to the statement that Raceland has won the trophy for 1936 and that we stand ready to bet one of Governor Leche's tax tokens that the same factory will win it again for 1937.

## What One Department of the U. S. Government Thinks About Sugar

*(A Radio Broadcast by the U. S. Department of Commerce)*

Good Afternoon:

The story is told of a traveler in a remote section of the United States who, overtaken by a storm, was forced to seek shelter for the night in a nearby cabin. It was a section of the country where many of the customs of yesterday still prevail. When, during the evening meal, coffee was served the host said to the traveler:

"Will you take long sweetenin' or short sweetenin' in your coffee?" To which the traveler replied, "Why, I don't understand what you mean." Then it was explained that long sweetening meant molasses and short sweetening, sugar.

These expressions, the visitor learned, had come down from the old days when sugar was a luxury—something reserved as a special treat for honored guests—while sorgum or molasses was relied upon for everyday use.

A hundred years ago sugar was so rare and expensive that the average American consumed only ten pounds of it a year, while today the consumption of sugar in the United States by every man, woman and child is around a hundred pounds a year. And we Americans eat on the average a pound of candy a month, which, of course, is included in our consumption of sugar.

As far back as present day knowledge goes, honey was in use and for thousands of years it was the only known sweet. The story of the origin of sugar cane is one of the most fantastic stories one could imagine. It is a story so vague and imaginative one can scarcely tell where legend leaves off and truth begins. In ancient India, centuries before Christ there lived a prince, Raja Trishanku, who,

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so the story goes, desired to be transported to heaven while still a living man. But the ruler of the Celestial Regions denied this request. Then Raja Trishanku sought out a holy man named Vishva Mitra, a hermit, who obligingly arranged a sort of temporary paradise here on earth for the Raja to enjoy. And among the luxuries which the holy man called into being for this earthly paradise was sugar cane.

Tradition fails to make clear where the hermit obtained this cane. In due season, however, Raja Trishanku ended his terrestial career. By order of the gods, his temporary paradise was destroyed but they permitted the sugar cane to remain. And thus, in time, it spread to other lands and became a benefit to all mankind.

And, in partial confirmation of this strange tale, authorities agree that the art of sugar making really originated in India from whence it spread into China and other parts of the Orient. Our modern word sugar comes from the Persian language.

During the Middle Ages, when the Crusaders set forth in the Holy Wars they found in the Orient such strange luxuries as silks and satins, spices and above all, sugar. After they returned home from the wars a trade in sugar began and the great palaces of the Spanish kings at Madrid and Toledo were built with the proceeds of the sugar trade. One of its chief uses at that time was as a medicine.

So valuable was sugar in those days that explorers spanned the seven seas to find new sources of supply. The discovery of sugar was even one of the objectives which Christopher Columbus had in mind when he crossed the Atlantic in 1492. Gradually, sugar became more and more a necessity of life, especially after the 17th Century when tea and coffee became popular in Western Europe.

And then came an event that proved to be a milestone in the march of sugar. Due to the mighty Napoleon, Europe was aflame with war. France had been cut off from the cane sugar supply of the world. French scientists for many years had tried to obtain it in commercial quantities from apples, pears, plums, quinces, and even walnuts and chestnuts. In 1802, a German chemist, Franz Karl Achard, built the first factory for making sugar from the beet. The French soon learned of Achard's experiments and by 1811 a Frenchman named Benjamin Delessert had produced a quantity of well crystallized beet sugar.

The word was carried to Napoleon of the success of Delessert's efforts. Napoleon was enraptured. With true French enthusiasm he cried, "We must see this. Let us go at once."

Instantly dropping all other activities, Napoleon hurried away to the sugar factory. He was delighted with what he saw. Taking the Cross of Honor which he wore on his breast, he pinned it on the astonished Delessert, for at the moment it looked as though the lowly sugar beet had become the savior of France. But like many great scientific discoveries, the efforts of Napoleon to make beet sugar popular met with opposition. In time, however, people discovered that sugar is sugar, whether it comes from one plant or another. And since that day, the sugar beet has held an honored place at the side of sugar cane.

For all pure sugar is chemically the same substance—sucrose. Soon after the discovery of North America, it was found that the maple tree yields a delicious sugar with a distinctive flavor and color. But maple sugar can easily be refined until it loses all its individual color and flavor and becomes pure white sugar, exactly like that from the cane or the beet. And, oddly enough, it is one substance which modern science has not been able to produce commercially by artificial means. Of course, other kinds of sweetening can be made, but nature has refused to divulge her secret of combining carbon, hydrogen and oxygen in the exact formula which is sugar. Chemists tell us that through the energy of sunlight, sugar is formed in the leaves from carbon dioxide and water. So nature, in her marvelous laboratory, takes a little sunshine, a little wind and a little rain and, presto, there is sugar.

If you were to sail into the beautiful harbor of Rio de Janeiro today one of the things that would arrest your attention would be great Sugar Loaf Mountain. This mountain derived its name from the hard, cone-shaped loaf which was the form in which sugar at one time was molded. In those days, it was customary to break up lumps of sugar as they were needed, which is far from the sanitary, convenient form in which granulated sugar comes to our table today.

The first American cane sugar was made in Louisiana before the Revolutionary War. And, in the introduction of American beet sugar, the Mormons played an interesting part. When the pioneers of that religious sect followed Brigham Young westward in the year 1847, they crossed the boundless prairies and took up their homes in Utah. Thousands of miles separated them from the settled areas where sugar could be obtained. Meanwhile, the Mormons were sending missionaries of their faith to foreign lands, and one of these missionaries, John Taylor, learned of the process of making beet sugar in France. A complete manufacturing outfit was purchased, and shipped to New Orleans. Fifty-two ox teams drew it slowly across the wilderness to Utah. This first Mormon sugar factory was not a success, after all, because the manufacture of sugar from the beet requires expert technical knowledge as well as the right equipment. But the knowledge of beet sugar spread and soon the farmers of the great West found that the sugar beet was one of their most promising crops.

The plant itself was steadily improved until today the sugar beet may contain as much as 15 to 20% sugar, as compared with 5 or 6% when cultivated first in France. And no part of the sugar beet is wasted, as the tops and pulp of the sugar beet mixed in with molasses are an excellent feed for cattle.

And today, the sugar cane yields a great variety of useful products. Some sugar cane gives us edible molasses. However, the chief by-product of cane sugar manufacturing is the inedible or blackstrap molasses, which is used to make large quantities of industrial alcohol, cattle feed, yeast, and other products. And the pulp of the ground cane, after the sugar is extracted, is used for fuel and also in the manufacture of insulating wallboards.

Sugar itself is used in many ways unthought-of only a few years ago. For example, a typical stick of American chewing-gum will be over half composed of sugar. Sugar is used in manufacturing tobacco, in making soap and high explosives, and it is an essential ingredient in such great industries as canning and preserving, baking and confectionery. To-

day, on almost every street corner wholesome, delicious candy bars and other confections are on sale—for candy is now one of the great American habits.

Today, sugar is universally regarded as an economical, nourishing food. Leaders in the American sugar industry are authority for the statement that it is incorrect and unfair to single out sugar as a chief cause of overweight. Excess weight, they contend, is usually caused by an excess of calories over the requirements of the body; and the average consumption of calories in other forms far exceeds the average intake of calories in the form of sugar, they say. The principal danger to the waistline, sugar authorities assert, comes from the fact that a small quantity of sugar will make large amounts of other foods so tasty that they tempt one to over-indulgence.

As a matter of fact, sugar is primarily a source of quick energy, to supply our bodily needs. Thus, between the halves of football games, many coaches give lumps of sugar to their players, for the body converts sugar into bodily energy almost immediately. For the same reason, sugar products are included in the emergency rations of soldiers, mountain-climbers and others who lead an active, strenuous life.

And sugar authorities tell me that the theory that sugar is responsible for tooth decay is now entirely exploded.

Today, sugar is among our greatest American industries. Production of beet sugar is concentrated in the Rocky Mountain States and in California, although sizeable quantities are produced in Nebraska, Michigan and as far east as Ohio. Domestic cane sugar requirements are supplied chiefly by sugar producers in the States of Louisiana and Florida, territory of Hawaii, insular possession of Puerto Rico, the Philippine Islands and the Republic of Cuba.

And in a modern American sugar refinery—beet or cane sugar factory—the process of manufacture is marvelous to behold. The sugar syrup is revolved at incredible speed in centrifugal machines, so called because the centrifugal force of the whirling machines throws off the liquid and leaves the sugar.

**Today, according to the latest Bureau of Census figures, there are well over 150 establishments engaged in processing and refining beet and cane sugar in continental United States. The supplies purchased by these sugar establishments, such as materials, containers, fuel and electric power, cost over 425 million dollars during last year, while the total manufacturer's value of their products was well in excess of half a billion dollars.**

Today, as in ancient times, sugar is one of the pleasant things of life—a luxury as well as a healthful food. But, thanks to the modern American sugar industry, it is a luxury which everyone can enjoy.

Thank you, and good afternoon.

---

Secretary of State Cordell Hull has just publicly asked Congress to take away some of the sugar quota allotted to the sugar producers of the United States and give it to Cuba, on the ground that Cuba buys supplies in this country. The largest annual purchase of supplies he cited was $191,000,000 in 1924. This has dwindled to $64,000,000 last year.

The Department of Commerce obviously includes in its summary not only the United States producers but also the United States refiners whose existence is threatened by the Administration's advocacy of the importation of large amounts of refined sugar.

By what process of reasoning does Secretary Hull arrive at the conclusion that a home industry that the U. S. Department of Commerce says purchases $425,000,000 of supplies in the United States ought to be shouldered out of the way for an industry abroad that buys only a fraction of that amount from us?—[Editor *Sugar Bulletin*].

## Senate Committee Approves Building Appropriation

Senator Allen J. Ellender reported to us by wire on May 12th that the Senate Appropriations Committee had favorably reported on the item of $100,000.00 for a building for the Experiment Station at Houma. Here is the Senator's telegram:

WASHINGTON D C MAY 12 1937

REGINALD DYKERS
AMERICAN SUGAR CANE LEAGUE
NEW ORLEANS

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE JUST REPORTED OUT AGRICULTURE BILL CONTAINING ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLAR ITEM FOR HOUMA EXPERIMENT STATION STOP QUITE A BIT OF OPPOSITION DEVELOPED BUT WE SUCCEEDED IN GETTING FULL COMMITTEE TO VOTE FULL AMOUNT

ALLEN J ELLENDER
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THE
# SUGAR BULLETIN

Entered as second-class matter April 13, 1925, at the post office at New Orleans, La., under Act of March 6, 1879.

Dean, College of Pure Science, La. State Univ. Baton Rouge, La.

We stand for the encouragement of Home Industries as against Foreign Competition.

Vol. 15 NEW ORLEANS, LA., JUNE 1, 1937 No. 17

# Summarized Report on Experiment Station Test Fields, Season of 1936

*By C. B. Gouaux, Cane Specialist*

## Introduction

The sugar cane variety work for the season of 1936 at the nine Experiment Station test fields located in representative areas of the cane belt was completed during the fall grinding period from October through the month of December. The information and data for a one year period was secured from a total of twenty-five variety outfields, consisting of nine fall plant cane, nine first stubble and seven second stubble fields.

The final results consisting of field and chemical data were obtained and compiled in a series of nine tables, giving results for each test field. As in previous seasons, the numerous variety plots were weighed on plantation scales, and the chemical data obtained from big-mill sugar house tests. All results were secured with the splendid cooperation of test field cooperators and with the assistance of members of their field and sugar house staffs.

During the cane season of 1936, the weather conditions were generally unfavorable for cane development in the spring and summer months; with extreme drouth conditions prevailing in June and July or with inadequate or poor rainfall distribution in most sections. The harvesting period was favorable for the first two weeks, and shortly afterwards was marked with early freezes that were particularly injurious to the northern areas and portions of the western and central sections. With the exception of these early spotted freezes, the weather conditions were favorable for the saving of a record breaking cane crop, which according to the figures of the Cane Products Trade Association, Inc., amounted to 4,951,630 tons of cane for sugar, equivalent to 383,500 short tons of raw sugar, on a basis of 155 pounds of raw sugar yield per ton of cane.

## Alluvial Section (Yazoo Soil)

The results of the fall plant cane and stubble varieties in the alluvial section on Yazoo soil, indicate that C. P. 29-320 was first ranking variety at Cinclare; second at Glenwood and Reserve; while C. P. 28-19 was first at Glenwood and Co. 290 first at Reserve. The C. P. 28-11 variety was either third or fourth ranking variety at these places, and Co. 281 was generally lower ranking than these four canes.

The C. P. 29-116 variety which was released for commercial field planting in the fall of 1936, performed very much like Co. 290 at the three outfield stations of the alluvial section. The fall plant cane results show that it gave sucrose below standard (11.5%) in the three trials, with heavy field yields and that Co. 290 had the advantage in sucrose with slightly lower field yields. The averages for fall plant cane and first stubble show that Co. 290 made a better showing than C. P. 29-116. The sucrose tests of C. P. 29-116 at Glenwood and Reserve were higher than those of Cinclare.

In the nine tests, consisting of fall plant cane, first and second stubble, C. P. 28-19 was higher in sucrose than C. P. 29-320 eight times. Both varieties tested up to standard and better, eight out of nine tests, while C. P. 28-11 ran seven out of nine tests. C. P. 28-19 and C. P. 29-320 gave higher sucrose tests than Co. 281 every time; while C. P. 28-11 was higher in sucrose than Co. 281, six out of nine times. In comparing the field performance of these four varieties, as fall plant cane, first and second stubble, C. P. 29-320 gave the highest field tonnage, with the others ranking in the following order: C. P. 28-11, C. P. 28-19, and Co. 281.

## Red River Section (Yahola very fine sandy Loam)

In the Red River section on Yahola very fine sandy loam soil, C. P. 29-320 was the outstanding variety at the Meeker, Shirley and Bubenzer test fields. This variety duplicated its performance of the 1935 season in being the leading variety of this section.

THE
# SUGAR BULLETIN

**407 Carondelet St., New Orleans**

Reginald Dykers, Editor

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The American Cane Growers' Assn.
The Producers & Mfrs. Protective Assn.
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In a total of seven fall plant cane and stubble tests in the Meeker-Bunkie section C. P. 29-320 gave an average of .50 per cent. higher sucrose and 5.60 tons per acre more than P.O.J. 234, and also showed higher normal juice sucrose six times out of the seven tests.

The other four varieties ranked in the following order at Meeker: C. P. 28-19, Co. 281, C. P. 28-11, and P.O.J. 234; while at Shirley they ranked as follows: C. P. 28-11, C. P. 28-19, P.O.J. 234 and Co. 281

Out of seven mill tests of fall plant cane, first and second stubble at Bunkie and Meeker, C. P. 28-19 showed higher sucrose content than C. P. 29-320 four times. In the same tests C. P. 29-320 averaged 3.74 tons per acre more than C. P. 28-19. From the standpoint of standard sucrose, in the same seven tests, C. P. 28-11 was below par cane four times, compared to one time each for C. P. 28-19 and C. P. 29-320. The P.O.J. 234 variety was also below 11.5 per cent. sucrose in four of the tests, while Co. 281 was below the standard cane test five times.

The C. P. 29-116 variety performed very much like Co. 290, giving high field yields and low sucrose tests. The average of four fall plant cane tests was 8.81 per cent sucrose, and three first stubble tests gave an average of 10.72 per cent sucrose. The results indicate that both Co. 290 and C. P. 29-116 are undesirable canes for commercial field planting in this northern area of the cane belt.

### Teche Section (Sharkey Loam)

The results of the Teche section in St. Mary parish on Sharkey loam, indicate that the five leading varieties ranked as follows: Co. 290, C. P. 29-320, C. P. 28-19, C. P. 28-11 and Co. 281. The fall plant cane data showed that C. P. 29-116 made its best showing in this section, giving a balance of $104.20 per acre compared to $103.24 per acre for Co. 290, while C. P. 28-19 surpassed C. P. 29-320. In the balance per acre figures given, the harvesting expenses have been deducted, but the other expenses including land preparation, planting cost, fertilization, cultivation, etc. were not taken out.

In comparing the sucrose content of the five varieties, Co. 290 was the lowest, with a good margin above 12.5 per cent. sucrose; with the other varieties making the best showing ranking as follows: C. P. 28-19, Co. 281, C. P. 29-320 and C. P. 28-11. The average comparisons of field tonnages of fall plant cane, first and second stubble, indicate that Co. 290 gave the highest tonnage, outyielding C. P. 29-320, 4.50 tons per acre; C. P. 28-11, 6.45 tons per acre; C. P. 28-19, 6.68 tons per acre and Co. 281, 13.03 tons per acre. The three varieties showing the best qualities from a second stubble standpoint were Co. 290, C. P. 29-320 and C. P. 28-11. The C. P. 807 variety also made a very fine showing. These varieties performed very much on a similar basis as first stubble.

### Western Section (Lintonia and Olivier Soils)

On Lintonia silt loam soil at Broussard, the four leading varieties were in the following order: Co. 290, C. P. 29-320, C. P. 28-11, and C. P. 28-19. At Youngsville on Olivier silt loam soil, the four leading varieties ranked as follows: C. P. 29-320, Co. 290, C. P. 28-11 and C. P. 28-19.

The results of these two fields indicate that Co. 290 and C. P. 29-320 made the best showing, followed by C. P. 28-11. These three varieties and C. P. 807 gave the best performance under the extreme drouth conditions that prevailed in the western area of the cane belt. It is interesting to note that C. P. 28-11 outranked C. P. 28-19 at both places. The C. P. 29-116 variety made a favorable showing as fall plant cane at Broussard and Youngsville.

The results at Broussard and Youngsville of fall plant cane and first stubble, indicate that C. P. 28-19 was the leading variety from a sucrose standpoint with the other varieties in the following order: (C. P. 29-320 and C. P. 28-11), Co. 281, and Co. 290. The field data shows that Co. 290 gave the highest field yield, outyielding C. P. 29-320, 1.33 tons per acre; C. P. 28-11, 3.60 tons per acre; C. P. 28-19, 6.99 tons per acre and Co. 281, 10.11 tons per acre. The three varieties making the best showing as first stubble from the standpoint of field yields, were as follows: C. P. 807, first; Co. 290, second; and C. P. 29-320, third.

### Commercial Field Canes and Some of the New Varieties

The three early maturing varieties, C. P. 28-19, C. P. 29-320, and C. P. 28-11, have proven their merit as being very important field varieties for all sections of the cane belt. These canes should be used on the recommended soil types, that is, C. P. 28-19 and C. P. 29-320, on the well drained fertile soils, and C. P. 28-11 on poorly drained black lands, and

on the poorer phases of Lintonia and Olivier silt loams of the western section. The C. P. 29-320 and C. P. 28-19 varieties are more early maturing than C. P. 28-11, and should be planted on a field scale that will adequately provide the necessary standard testing cane for early milling operations.

The Co. 290 cane made its best showing in the Teche and western areas, being the leading commercial field variety. This is in conformity with the results of previous seasons. Co. 290 made its next best performance in the "Lower Mississippi river section," where it gave very good results. The data indicate that it was entirely unsatisfactory in the "Red river" and "Upper Mississippi river and Atchafalaya sections." These findings are definitely in accordance with those of the 1935 season, which went on record as one of the most ideal seasons in the long history of the Louisiana sugar cane industry. Our previous recommendation of planting Co. 290 on lands that are known to produce sugar cane of satisfactory sucrose content cannot be over-emphasized. It is strictly a mid-season maturing variety, and should not be over-planted, especially in the sections where it has consistently given low sucrose tests.

The Co. 281 variety still remains one of our most valuable field canes, being best adapted to the more fertile soils and responding well to good cultivation. On soils that are of medium fertility the fall plant cane should be fertilized early in the spring with an application of about eighteen pounds of readily available nitrogen per acre; while the stubble should receive the regular recommended rate of thirty-six pounds of readily available nitrogen per acre.

While varieties like C. P. 28-19, C. P. 29-320, Co. 290 and C. P. 28-11 have generally exceeded Co. 281 under favorable field and weather conditions; they have been inferior from the standpoint of showing proper keeping qualities under mill-windrowing conditions. It is very important to plant sufficient acreages of Co. 281 as a protection against early bud-killing freezes, and for the compensation of having a cane that can be safely windrowed and that can be relied upon to provide cane of satisfactory milling qualities for the late stages of the grinding period.

The results of the C. P. 29-116 variety demonstrate that it is definitely a heavy field yielding cane, with a tendency to produce extremely low sucrose yields on the alluvial "sandy" or Yazoo soils; being very much in the same class as Co. 290. C. P. 29-116 showed its best promise in the Teche and western areas, and from its record there during the past season, it can be recommended for field planting on a trial basis.

In the new varieties on trial, there were really no canes of consistent outstanding qualities. The most promising of the new varieties on trial were C. P. 29-120, C. P. 29-137, and C. P. 29-283 and C. P. 29-103. All four of these canes have been increased on a more extensive plot-scale basis for further observation and study.

The fall plant cane results of the nine test fields indicate that the unreleased C. P. 29-103 variety made a better showing than the recently released C. P. 29-116. At two test fields, Sterling and Youngsville, C. P. 29-116 surpassed C. P. 29-103.

The comparative fall plant cane, and first stubble normal juice analyses of test field varieties, indicate that C. P. 28-19 gave the highest sucrose tests, with the other varieties in the following order: C. P. 29-320, Co. 281, C. P. 28-11, C. P. 29-103, Co. 290 and C. P. 29-116.

Our early maturing varieties can meet the climatic and soil requirements of all sections of the cane belt, and produce higher sugar and field yields than the P.O.J. canes. The late maturing or mid-season heavy tonnage low fiber canes have definite areas where they can be used most profitably and advantageously. Co. 281 has repeatedly proven its great value as a mill-windrowing variety and at the present time is the only available cane with this valuable asset. These facts are of great economical importance to sugar cane growers and sugar producers, and should be carefully considered in all cane planting programs. The Experiment Station results and recommendations afford a valuable guide for the best utilization of our present sugar cane varieties for the various sections of the sugar cane belt of Louisiana.

## Write For This Booklet

In the Yearbook of the United States Department of Agriculture for 1936, there is a section entitled "Sugarcane: Its Origin and Improvement." This section occupies pages 561 to 623 in the Yearbook and its authors are E. W. Brandes, Principal Pathologist in Charge, and G. B. Sartoris, Senior Pathologist, Division of Sugar Plant Investigations, Bureau of Plant Industry.

Separate reprints of this interesting and instructive Section have now been made, each constituting a little pamphlet of convenient size, and these reprints may be obtained free of charge through Dr. E. W. Brandes, United States Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Plant Industry, Washington, D. C. Those applying for them should ask for "United States Department of Agriculture Year Book Separate No. 1576."

Anyone interested in the wonderful work that has been done in recent years along the lines of breeding new and superior varieties of sugarcane will read this little pamphlet with avidity as it discusses the whole subject and gives a full account of all that has been done and how it was done and what may yet be done, accompanied by illustrations. Every cane grower in Louisiana ought to get a copy and read it if the new varieties of cane mean anything to him, as they certainly do.


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# Washington News

*(By C. J. Bourg)*

May 27, 1937.

If your Washington representative were seated on the front porch of a plantation residence in Louisiana (which is just exactly what he would like to be doing right now) and a cane grower asked him for news about the Sugar Bill, his reply, between sips of mint julip or cafe noir, would be substantially this:

Let us go back a little first. At the last Session of Congress the Sugar Bill which purported to represent the views of the Secretary of Agriculture, provided a continuation of the 260,000 tons of sugar allotted to Louisiana and Florida under the Jones-Costigan Act. Senator Overton thereupon introduced a Bill asking for unlimited production in the continental United States and the fixing of quotas for all off-shore areas based upon the amount of sugar needed to fulfill the requirements of the United States consumer, after all continental sugars had been exhausted. Neither Bill was adopted by Congress, but instead a continuing Resolution was passed extending the quotas of the Jones-Costigan Act for one year. When this Resolution was brought up in the House of Representatives Mr. DeRouen of Louisiana and Mr. Green of Florida both objected to any legislation that sought to continue even for one year so inadequate a quota as 260,000 tons. Congressman Marvin Jones of Texas, Chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture, was in charge of the legislation on the Floor of the House and he prevailed upon the Representatives from Louisiana and Florida to withhold their objection, with the understanding that the inadequacy of the quota for the continental cane area was apparent, and giving assurances that in the next Session of Congress the entire problem would be thoroughly analyzed in the light of the experience of three years under the Jones-Costigan Act and readjustments to be made for the future. With this understanding and assurance based largely upon their confidence in the word and purpose of Chairman Jones, and because the known beet sugar deficit would permit of all continental cane sugar being marketed in 1936, the two spokesmen for the continental cane area acquiesced in the entreaty of Mr. Jones, after explaining their intention to carry on the fight when sugar legislation would be next considered. Similar assurances were given on the Senate side, although they were not made on the Floor of the Senate.

At the opening of the present Session of Congress, Senator Overton introduced a Bill providing that one-third of the consumption requirements of the United States market should be first allotted to continental areas and the balance to off-shore areas. The Overton Bill in effect provided a continental quota which would have been participated in by all States of the United States, without restriction, until such time as the production amounted to more than one-third of the consumption, in which event a minimum participation would be guaranteed to each State. The Overton Bill also provided the administrative procedure by which the sugar quota system would be carried out. It left none of the major decisions to the discretion of the administrative officers.

Very soon thereafter Bills were introduced by Congressman Jones of Texas in the House of Representatives and by Senators O'Mahoney of Wyoming and Adams of Colorado in the Senate. These Bills have been acknowledged publicly by the proponents to have been prepared by the Department of Agriculture. From the standpoint of Louisiana these Bills recognized the necessity for an improved quota in the case of continental cane area, but failed to do a complete job. The quota allotted to Louisiana and Florida was named at 360,000 tons. No one has ever explained why the figure was placed at 360,000 tons, except that it was an increase of 100,000 tons over the Jones-Costigan Act. Just a more or less arbitrary determination!

The production in the continental cane area had been greater in 1935 and in 1936 than the figure placed in the Department of Agriculture proposal. The only conclusion that any student can reach is that the Department thought that *any* improvement in quota would make the Bill acceptable.

Then hearings were held before the Sub-Committee of the Committee on Agriculture. It was shown conclusively there that considering production of the past two years and plantings already made last September and October, Louisiana alone was entitled to a very much larger quota than would be allotted to the whole continental cane area under the Bill. The Sub-Committee was sufficiently impressed, after a study of all the facts, to report unanimously a Bill which carried 440,000 tons for the continental cane area. It is entirely fair and accurate to state that the Committee at no time refused to recognize the needs of the continental cane area for a much larger quota than that recommended, but the difficulties had to do with the fact that in order to take care of Louisiana and Florida amply, it is necessary to reduce the quotas of off-shore areas or to diminish the participation of off-shore or foreign areas in consumption increases.

The report of the Sub-Committee on Agriculture was not acceptable to the Secretary of Agriculture, or to the Secretaries of State and Interior. Accordingly, these Government officials prepared a redraft of the Sugar Bill cutting Louisiana and Florida back to 360,000 tons, but asking for improvements in the status of Hawaii and Puerto Rico as well as in the status of Cuba, Peru and the Dominican Republic.

We forgot to mention earlier that the President of the United States had sent a message to Congress in which he asked that the principles of the Jones-Costigan Act "should again be made effective" and that foreign countries should enjoy no less advantages than they do now.

The Bills introduced immediately following the President's statement, and which have been publicly admitted to have prepared in the Department of Agriculture, followed the President's message with regard to Hawaii and Puerto Rico and left their refined sugar quotas as they are. In the same manner, these Administration prepared Bills made no provision for additional quotas to foreign countries. But

the Departmental redraft which was forwarded to Chairman Cummings of the Sub-Committee, by Secretary Wallace, took all restrictions off of the importation of refined sugar from Hawaii and Puerto Rico and provided that any surrender of sugar made by the Philippine Islands should be reallocated to "foreign countries other than Cuba." Strangely enough, these two changes do violence to the message of the President of the United States, and these changes have been the main cause for the stalemate that at least outwardly faces us.

In a sincere effort to compose all differences and to bring about a reasonable compromise, Chairman Marvin Jones of the House Committee on Agriculture is contributing his leadership and statesmanship.

Of course, there are other points of difference but they are not as difficult of adjustment as the proposals to permit the unlimited importation of refined sugar from Hawaii and Puerto Rico, or the substantial increase of quotas to Peru and the Dominican Republic. When the Administration seeks to improve the quota status of off-shore areas and *foreign* countries, it can hardly justify in any sense its unwillingness to grant a needed improvement in quota for two *States* of the United States.

The principal demands, on which a compromise is being sought, are as follows:

(A) *Secretary of State*:
- (1) 50,000 to 75,000 tons of sugar for the purpose of promoting new reciprocal trade agreements with foreign countries, such as Peru and Dominican Republic.
- (2) No reduction in Cuba's quota of raw or refined sugar, nor in Cuban participation in increased continental consumption.

(B) *Secretary of Interior*:
- (1) Basic minimum quota for Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands, on equal status with the States.
- (2) Proportionate participation with the continental areas in any increased consumption in the United States.
- (3) Right of Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands to ship in their full quotas as refined sugar.

(C) *Secretary of Agriculture*:
- (1) In agreement with the Secretary of State and Secretary of Interior.
- (2) 75 cent tax and 70 cent benefit payment.
- (3) Price control on basis of 5 principal crops.

(D) *Continental Beets*:
- (1) Minimum basic quota of 1,550,000 tons.
- (2) 50 cent tax and 60 cent benefit payment.
- (3) More favorable (or less drastic) yardstick on price control.
- (4) No increase in the importation of offshore domestic white sugar over the original Jones-Costigan Act, and reduction of Cuban refined sugar to 300,000 tons.
- (5) Same participation in increased consumption as under the Jones-Costigan Act, plus our full share of the Philippine surrender, which makes the continental percentage 36.7% instead of 30%.


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(E) *Louisiana*:
(1) Increase in minimum basic quota to not less than 440,000 tons.
(2)
(3) Same as (2), (3), (4) and (5) of continental beet area.
(4)
(5)

(F) *Florida*:
(1) No quota restriction, no tax, no benefit payment, but tariff protection.

(G) *U. S. Refiners*:
(1) Cuba's refined quota be reduced from 428,000 tons to 300,000 tons, or less.
(2) No improvement in refined sugar status of other off-shore areas.

As we see the situation calmly and broadly there is no reason in the world for any of the continental groups to yield. In fact, the chief criticism and complaint that was leveled at the continental groups last year and at the beginning of this year, was that we were divided and unwilling to agree among ourselves. But lo and behold when the Sub-Committee, which heard all witnesses and which held meetings for days to study the merit of each proposal, presented a Bill which the continental groups could support and did indicate their willingness to support, some spokesmen now seek to point the finger of suspicion at the fact of our unity and agreement. Our memory serves us too well! As a matter of fact we heard the complaint so often about a divided industry that we were drawn to the conclusion that the complaint must be justified and therefore the interested parties in continental United States should reach some reasonable agreement. We were unable to do so until the Sub-Committee presented a Bill which, while not granting everything to which we still consider ourselves entitled, offered such a compromise as is always necessary in legislation.

Thus, at this writing we are facing a sit-down strike on the part of the Federal Departments. In the case of Louisiana there is no occasion for us to yield because we have already yielded very considerably from the position which we completely justified that our quota should be 500,000 tons. We yielded because we felt that the Sub-Committee Bill taken as a whole, with many other advantages to make up for a still inadequate quota, justified our going along in the House of Representatives. We very much fear that any drastic changes in the Sub-Committee Bill, usually referred to as Committee Print No. 2 will make the legislation objectionable and therefore unacceptable.

Senators Overton and Ellender having heard that persons in high authority in the National Administration and in Congress were being told things that would place the Louisiana sugar industry at a disadvantage, by persons who ought to and probably do know better, presented the following memorandum to the President of the United States in person, which speaks for itself:

### MEMORANDUM

"The impression is being given out by persons unfriendly to the Louisiana sugar industry that too much acreage has been put into sugarcane in Louisiana in recent years. This is contrary to the facts, as is shown by the attached copy of the official Crop Report as of May 1, 1937, issued by the Crop Reporting Board, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. Department of Agriculture. On page 6, commenting on the Louisiana sugarcane production in 1936, the Crop Reporting Board has this to say, "The area harvested for sugar decreased 5 percent from the preceding year but was 2 percent more than the area harvested in 1934; but the increase in cane production for sugar was nearly 20 percent, due for the most part to the use of new varieties of seedstock."

"It should be noted that the increase in sugar production in Louisiana for 1936 over 1935 was 13%, while the increase in California was 30%, Michigan 16% and Colorado 12%.

"An analysis of the statistics published by the Crop Reporting Board on page 14 shows that as a result of the acceptance of new sugarcane varieties recommended by the United States Department of Agriculture and the State Experimental Station, the yield of sugarcane per acre in Louisiana has increased from a 5-year average (1928-32) of 14.4 ons to a yield of 17.1 tons in 1935 and to a yield of 21.4 tons in 1936. Thus from 239,000 acres in 1935 the yield of sugarcane was 4,087,000 tons, while from 227,000 acres in 1936 the yield of sugarcane was 4,854,000 tons. By reference to the United States Department of Agriculture Yearbook it will be seen that in 1911 the acreage harvested was 310,000 acres from which 5,887,292 short tons of sugarcane was produced.

"The official report of the 1937 crop will show an increase in sugarcane acreage for Louisiana, yet the total acreage will still be less than the acreage harvested in 1911. In addition, we have official information which shows that in 21 Parishes of Louisiana the Federal Resettlement Administration has planted in sugarcane 15,110 acres. This acreage is all planted in the most prolific new varieties of sugarcane and is expected to add at least 300,000 tons of sugarcane to the production of Louisiana. Obviously, this increase of production on the part of an agency of the Federal Government cannot be charged against the Louisiana sugar industry, but on the contrary provides an additional reason for improving the quota status of Louisiana and demonstrates that the Resettlement experts have adopted the recommendation of all agricultural scientists of the Federal and State Departments of Agriculture that sugarcane is the best adapted and most efficient crop for South Louisiana.

"Another striking fact is that the report of the United States Tariff Commission shows continental United States cane sugar delivered during the calendar year 1909 for consumption in the United States was 459,155 short tons "refined and/or consumption basis." If these figures are reduced to "raw value," or 96 degree basis, it becomes evident that there was almost 500,000 short tons of continental cane sugar delivered for consumption during one calendar year. When it is considered that the proposed Sugar Bill does not contemplate production control, but rather the regulation and control of the marketing and distribution of sugar, we suggest that the performance of the continental cane area in 1909 mus be a major point of fact for consideration.

"Therefore, considering the official report of the Crop Reporting Board, the productiveness of the recommended varieties of sugarcane furnished by the United States Department of Agriculture, the sizeable increase in sugarcane acreage created by the Resettlement Administration, and the historical background of marketing Louisiana cane sugar, in addition to the acreage and sugarcane production records for Louisiana sugarcane, we respectfully submit that Louisiana is entitled to considerably more than the 440,000 tons recommended by the Subcommittee of the House Committee on Agriculture."

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# International Society of Sugar Cane Technologists

*Sixth Congress to be held at Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, 1938*

*By C. W. Edgerton, General Secretary-Treasurer*

The International Society of Sugar Cane Technologists, an organization composed of men from all parts of the world who are interested in the sugar industry, will hold its sixth congress at Louisiana

State University in the fall of 1928. In the past this Society has held its meetings at three-year intervals. The last congress was held in Queensland, Australia, in 1935. At these meetings the delegates from the various sugar countries present technical papers and discuss the various problems of the sugar industry.

It is expected that the Sixth Congress will be held during the last week of October and the first week of November in 1938. At that time the delegates will have the opportunity to observe the field planting and harvesting operations, as well as the work in the mills. The delegates will assemble in New Orleans. After the opening exercises and entertainments, the first week will be used in visiting refineries, plants, celotex factories and other manufacturing plants of interest to sugar men in the vicinity of New Orleans, and in making a tour through the sugar belt. Stops will be made at various plantations, test fields, and sugar mills. The tour will end at Baton Rouge, and during the second week the meetings for the reading of papers and the discussion of sugar cane problems will be held at Louisiana State University.

This Congress will mean a great deal to the sugar planters of Louisiana. They will have a chance to meet many of the leading sugar men of the world and hear them discuss the important problems concerned with sugar production. However, the holding of this Congress is a big undertaking and to make it successful it will be necessary for everyone in the State who is interested in sugar production to aid in any way possible. It is believed that this feeling of cooperation will prevail and consequently the Executive committee will feel free to ask for assistance at any time.

At the present time, it is hoped that as many as possible in Louisiana will join the Society. The membership dues, which will entitle the member to all the privileges of the Congress and will also provide him with a copy of the Proceedings, have been placed at five dollars ($5.00). The dues should be paid to Mr. G. B. Gouaux, the regional chairman for Louisiana, Lafayette, La.

# A Bacteriological Study of Refined Cane Sugar

*Abstract of paper by William L. Owen and R. L. Mobley of Baton Rouge, La., presented before the Division of Sugar Chemistry at the ninety-third meeting of the American Chemical Society, Chapel Hill, N. C., Tuesday, April 13, 1937*

Sugars of high chemical purity averaging well above 99 per cent sucrose possess a typical and inherent flora of microorganisms consisting of bacteria, yeast, and mold fungi, and unless provision is made for the protection of sugar from this contamination, it may reach high proportions and introduce unsuspected hazards in the food industry, where the sugars are used in products that are not subject to sterilization processes.

Of these microorganisms, only the spore-forming bacteria are able to survive the temperatures attained in processing the raw material, and of this group only the thermophilic, or heat loving, forms have proved troublesome in the industrial usages of sugars.

Some years ago it was found that the thermophilic bacteria in sugars are the cause of the spoilage of canned corn, and since that time definite standards have been adopted by the National Canners Association which limit the number of spores of these thermophiles to a maximum of 50 per 10 grams of sugar.

The authors over a period of years have studied the thermophilic contaminants in sugars from a number of refineries, and have also observed the variation in the numbers of these microorganisms in samples collected at various times during the day and at various seasons of the year.

As a result of these studies it has been shown that the period of highest infection of sugars in the refinery under observation occurs in the late afternoon, and the seasonal variation indicates that the greatest infection of the year is in the late Fall months.

The daily variation is thought to be due to the coincidence of cycles of operations, and the seasonal fluctuations, to the quality of sugars being refined at that time of the year.

These studies have also shown that the two groups of thermophilic organisms occurring in sugars, the "flat sours" and the "non flat sours", seem competitive in their association, and where one occurs in large numbers the other is correspondingly low.

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# THE SUGAR BULLETIN

La. State University
Baton Rouge, La.

Entered as second-class matter April 13, 1925, at the post office at New Orleans, La., under Act of March 6, 1879.

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We stand for the encouragement of Home Industries as against foreign competition.

Vol. 15 NEW ORLEANS, LA., JUNE 15, 1937 No. 18

## Who Will Be The First To Make It 8758?

With the returns now practically all in for this year, the American Sugar Cane League announces, with pride and satisfaction, that its paid membership for 1937 is 8757. This exceeds the membership enjoyed by the League in any previous year since its organization in 1922.

The League is now 15 years old. It has witnessed, in those fifteen years, the greatest and most destructive calamity that has ever visited the Louisiana sugar industry, if we except the War between the States. That calamity was the virulent spread of the mosaic disease, which began its progress slowly and insidiously and then, gradually gathering momentum, virtually swept the Louisiana sugarcane crop out of existence in 1926. Because in the four years from its birth in 1922 to the cataclysm of 1926 the League had won the confidence of those engaged in the Louisiana sugar industry, and because it comprised a rallying point for the disorganized sugar planters of Louisiana in that dark time, it survived the crisis and by such survival was able to function as a relief agency in the stupendous task of putting the Louisiana sugar industry back on its feet.

The League, following 1926, fought an unremitting battle for the introduction, adoption and distribution of the P.O.J. canes, the appearance of which inspired no confidence, but which the League recognized must be made to serve as a life-raft at that very critical time. There had to be overcome not only the lack of faith in the little stock of spindly, borer-eaten canes, so distressingly unprepossessing in appearance, but also a feeling of defeatism that was a natural result of the terrific punishment inflicted on the industry by the mosaic disease.

All that is history now. We mention it only as a reminiscence. How the League held the Louisiana sugar industry together in those dark days; how it acted as the intermediary and distributing agency between the industry and the Federal sources of new and healthy cane varieties; how it built the Federal Experiment Station at Houma to speed on and facilitate the whole system of cane varietal work; how year by year new and better canes came into being; how acre after acre came back into cane; how through all that time the League's membership grew and grew until now it is 8757, a high water mark for agricultural organizations restricted territorially as the League is—all that is too long a story to relate in detail. It is pleasant, however, to contemplate it, in retrospect.

But there is little time for musing and remembering. Enemies still confront us and still we must, as ever, gird ourselves for battle. The fields are lush and green once more with hardy, healthy, vigorous cane, and the factories are equipped as never before to manufacture the crop into sugar, and all the phases of plantation work are on a more modern, efficient and economic basis than in 1926, but there is facing us a queer, unbelievable, fantastic enemy that is so different from anything we have ever visualized that we are puzzled how to come to grips with it. Yet we must! Who ever dreamed, in the dark days of 1926, that the bitter-end fight to replant the Louisiana fields with new and healthy canes—the grit and guts we

THE
# SUGAR BULLETIN

407 Carondelet St., New Orleans

Reginald Dykers, Editor

Issued on the 1st and 15th of each month. Official Organ of the American Sugar Cane League of the U. S. A., in which are consolidated
The Louisiana Sugar Planters' Assn.
The American Cane Growers' Assn.
The Producers & Mfrs. Protective Assn
Subscription Price, 50 Cents per Year.

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**showed in taking less than a ton of seed cane and from it, as a nucleus, planting in 10 years over three hundred thousand acres—would in one decade of time be challenged by the *law?* No greater travesty than that is in all history.**

**And so the American Sugar Cane League still has work to do. It always will have work to do. Perhaps the hardest and most discouraging work it has to do is carrying the deadweight of some who want very much indeed to go along but will not push. That cross must be borne philosophically. It is a burden that has been encountered in all fields of endeavor since time began and exhibits one of the less attractive facets of human nature.**

## Mr. L. L. Janes

Rumors reach us that Mr. L. L. Janes, who has for 17 years been Agricultural Statistician at New Orleans for the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, is slated for some re-adjustment of duty.

As a part of his official functions, Mr. Janes, during all of his incumbency here, has compiled the Federal statistics of the Louisiana cane crop and the syrup, sugar and molasses made from it. In the course of this work he has come in contact with large numbers of the Louisiana cane growers and syrup, sugar and molasses manufacturers, and his accurate and careful methods, his quiet and unassuming manner, and his obliging and amiable disposition have won thousands of friends for him. In behalf of these friends, and in our own behalf as well, we venture to express the hope that whatever may be in store for Mr. Janes is for his betterment. Should the contrary befall it will be one of those unjust and capricious accomplishments that so often shake our faith in humanity.

In Mr. Janes the Bureau of Agricultural Economics have an upright, able and conscientious official. There is no surplus of such men.

## Who Got The $67,000,000?

*(By C. D. Kemper)*

An article appeared in the May 15th issue of *The Louisiana Farm Bureau News* entitled *Reciprocal Trade Agreements.* This article recounts the fact that the Louisiana sugar cane growers have asked for a quota of 460,000 tons of sugar and that Secretary Wallace has maintained that the quota should be 270,000 tons. The article further states that the average man finds it difficult to understand why Louisiana growers should not be permitted to produce all of the sugar they can. Then follows a very good argument in favor of domestic production.

The next paragraph advances the arguments that have been used by the other school of thought to the effect that trade balances should be established between nations on the basis of "you buy from us, we buy from you", with no trade balances settled in money. Then follows an account of a discussion with a rice grower who urged that we buy sugar and other products freely from Cuba so that Cuba might buy freely of our rice.

Let us see how this reciprocal arrangement has worked with Cuba. Beginning in the year 1934, the President of the United States, acting on the recommendation of the Tariff Commission, reduced the duty on Cuban sugar from two cents per pound to one and one-half cents. The Jones-Costigan amendment provided a quota for Cuba of 1,950,000 tons sugar, which during 1936 was increased to over 2,000,000 tons.

A trade agreement was entered into with Cuba whereby the duty on Cuban sugar was reduced from 1½c to 9/10 of a cent, while the full duty on other foreign sugar importation is 1.87½c, or more than twice the amount of the Cuban duty. Under the Jones-Costigan amendment, the amount of full duty sugar that can enter this country under the quota allotment is negligible.

Cuba has a further advantage in the fact that she has been granted the right to ship by cheap water transportation to any port in the United States, 22% of her sugar quota in the form of refined sugar. This has the effect of giving Cuba an F.O.B. refinery point at every port, whereas American sugar refineries have that advantage only at the port where their refinery is located. This 450,000 tons of refined sugar is produced in a foreign country under standards of living and general cost conditions much under the American standards and costs. In addition to all of these advantages the recent International Sugar Conference granted Cuba a quota of 940,000 tons of sugar.

Let us now recapitulate and see if Cuba has been

reciprocating our good neighbor policy. The 2,102,607 tons of sugar that was exported to the U. S. by Cuba during the year 1936 gave Cuba an average duty paid price of $3.594 per hundred pounds. By deducting 90c duty, the C. & F. price was $2.694. The world's price during 1936 was less than one cent. Cuba therefore received from the American consumer a price more than 1½c per pound in excess of the price obtained by Cuba from consumers in England, France and other countries. This profit on 2,102,607 tons of sugar at the conservative figure of 1½c per pound amounts to $63,000,000.00. You can add several additional million dollars as representing the net value to Cuba for the privilege of exporting 450,000 tons of granulated sugar to this country.

Our total purchases from Cuba in 1936 amounted to a value of $129,000,000.00. The value of Cuba's purchases from us was $62,000,000.00. The difference ($67,000,000.00) was paid by us to Cuba in dollars. The State Department can tell us, but has not so far done so, how much of this $67,000,000.00 cash trade balance payment was spent by Cuba in Scotland, England, Germany and Holland for steel products, in Czechoslovakia for shoes and toys, in France and Italy for gloves, olive oil, wines and champagnes, and in Argentina for corn. What our rice people, in particular, will want to know is how much of these American dollars were spent by Cuba in Siam and Indo China for cheap rice made by Coolie labor at 12½c per day.

Last November a representative of the Cuban Government came to New Orleans to meet with a committee of Texas and Louisiana rice producers concerning a proposal that had been made to Cuba by the American rice interests that the duty on rice be reduced ½c per pound so that our rice might compete with the cheaply produced rice from the far east. The Cuban proposed that a concession would be made by Cuba on American rice, if the Secretary of State at Washington would grant preference to Cuba on the exportations of vegetables and fruit so as to take the market away from Mexico and give it to Cuba. The attitude of Cuba in this case presents a fair example of the methods adopted by most foreign nations. America had already overdone the good neighbor policy toward Cuba, and then had to face a demand for more concessions which were planned by Cuba to keep the trade balance at the ratio of 2 to 1 in Cuba's favor.

Why were Louisiana sugar growers penalized to aid Cuba?

Louisiana had produced over 400,000 tons of sugar before the advent of mosaic disease. During normal times Louisiana's cane crop was about 350,000 acres. The 1937 crop of sugar cane in Louisiana is less than its normal planting and we are now using new varieties of cane that were furnished us by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The average production of tons of cane per acre in 1936 was 21.4. In 1926 the average was 7.5 tons of diseased cane.

We have asked for a quota of sugar that will permit us to produce this healthy vigorous cane in the proportion of soil depleting acres to soil building acres as prescribed by the rules and regulations of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act. The quota of 1,550,000 tons of sugar that has been given the 17 states of the union who grow sugar beets exceeds the production of sugar in those states during any consecutive group of years that may be selected from the past records; and it exceeds the amount of sugar that has been produced in any one year since the enactment of the Jones-Costigan Amendment. All we ask for is fair treatment, treatment that is comparable to that given to other states of the union.

## The League Acts To Insure Modern Sugar Factory At Louisiana Experiment Station

Elsewhere in this issue of *The Sugar Bulletin* appears an article by Arthur G. Keller, Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering, Louisiana State University, entitled "Modernization of the Audubon Sugar School Factory, Louisiana State University."

As will be seen from Professor Keller's article, steps have been taken to provide the Experimental Sugar Factory at the University with a type of equipment that will enable the technical staff to study practically any phase of cane sugar factory work and supply advice, based on actual conditions, in connection with numerous factory problems, especially those that arise in connection with the new canes.

The plan to modernize the factory at the University hung in the balance, notwithstanding the $38,250.00 that was obtained from the Public Works Administration, because the bids on the equipment ran to materially higher figures than had been provided for.

In this crisis the American Sugar Cane League stepped into the picture and supplied the additional money required, $14,000.00, to make this greatly needed facility a reality instead of just a plan and a hope. The League thus added one more constructive step to the many it has already taken to lift the Louisiana sugar industry up to higher levels of accomplishment.

## Notice Of Important Meeting

On Friday, June 18, at 1:30 P. M., the Contact Committee of the American Sugar Cane League will hold a meeting at the Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge which should be of interest to the sugar planters all over the State. This meeting will stress the work which has been done in the last two years towards maintaining stocks of seed cane as free as possible from mosaic. This is particularly valuable in that the chief aim has been to insure the continuance of good yields of Co. 281, our only commercial windrowing cane.

The program will be approximately as follows:

"Possible Control of Mosaic Disease in Louisiana by Rogueing," by Dr. C. W. Edgerton.

"Progress Report in Rogueing at the Sugar Experiment Station and on Certain Sugar Plantations," by Mr. M. L. Shaffer.

"Mosaic Control Work on South Coast Properties," by Mr. E. A. Maier.

"Mosaic Control on Godchaux Properties," by Mr. C. L. Denley.

"Insects that Carry Mosaic Disease," by Mr. J. W. Ingram.

All those planters who are particularly interested in this work should attend the meeting. There ought to be a very large attendance.

# There Are Still Two Sugar Exchanges

**In the issue of *The Sugar Bulletin* of April 15, 1937 we discussed the existence—the unnecessary existence—of two Sugar Exchanges in New Orleans and we have been hopeful that some sort of amalgamation of the two institutions might be arrived at by those who are affiliated with them, thus eliminating a situation that is both ridiculous and intolerable. As yet this has not occurred.**

**A majority of the Louisiana sugar interests have been maintaining for some two years one of the two Sugar Exchanges, called the Cane Products Trade Association, apparently finding its establishment a necessity or they would not have formed it, but even if the Cane Products Trade Association functions effectively as a Sugar Exchange, as everybody admits it does, the fact remains that as long as there are two Exchanges full and free development and expansion of neither one is possible.**

**It is generally necessary, in a case of this kind, for somebody to come forward with a concrete proposal. We therefore offer a suggestion as to a basis on which, perhaps, a get-together movement can be accomplished. What we suggest need not be regarded as inflexible and it is intended only as a cornerstone on which something satisfactory to everybody can perhaps be constructed. We suggest:**

Form new corporation. Name to be "Louisiana Sugar Exchange." The new corporation to assume none of the assets or liabilities of either the Louisiana Sugar & Rice Exchange or the Cane Products Trade Association.

Both Louisiana Sugar and Rice Exchange and Cane Products Trade Association, in their corporate capacities, to be made honorary members of the Louisiana Sugar Exchange without voting privileges or the obligation to pay dues, provided that on and after the organization of the Louisiana Sugar Exchange they cease to function at all under their own charters.

All members in good standing, who pay the regular dues of $60.00 per year, of the Louisiana Sugar & Rice Exchange and have paid same for the current fiscal year, and all members in good standing, who pay the regular dues of $60.00 a year, of the Cane Products Trade Association, and have paid same for the current fiscal year to be invited by the respective Presidents of the two organizations to become members of the Louisiana Sugar Exchange and on signifying their consent they shall be asked to attend, in person or by proxy, the organization meeting of the Louisiana Sugar Exchange, to be held at a date to be selected between August 15th and 31st, 1937.

The organization meeting shall do what is usually done at such meetings, such as adopting a charter and by laws, electing officers and Board of Directors and so on, and the Louisiana Sugar Exchange shall then proceed to function and be the only institution of its kind here that does function.

**So far as the two Public Belt Railroad appointments are concerned they have now been made and confirmed for a long period of years and the two gentlemen who hold them in behalf of the Louisiana Sugar and Rice Exchange need have no fear that a merger of the two Exchanges will endanger them. As a matter of fact, if we want to be technical, the law creating these appointments does not allocate them to "The Louisiana Sugar and Rice Exchange" at all but to "The New Orleans Sugar Exchange," a non-existent institution, the obvious intent being to allot them to the organization functioning as a Sugar Exchange in New Orleans. As an additional safeguard to the holders of these two political prizes, which we are becoming more and more convinced are the crux of the situation, our suggested plan does not call for the termination of the Louisiana Sugar & Rice Exchange as a legal entity.**

***The Sugar Bulletin* will be very glad indeed to receive expressions concerning the above suggestions, and constructive criticisms, leading to something better, will be especially welcome. We particularly hope to receive opinions from the members of the two institutions themselves.**

**A fact that must not be overlooked is that, irrespective of the various aspects of the case as we see them here ourselves, the existence of two Sugar Exchanges creates the impression in Washington of a division of interest and a division of opinion in the Louisiana Sugar industry and that may be highly injurious to the industry as a whole. It is hardly necessary for us to remind the gentlemen composing the two Exchanges that without the Louisiana sugar industry there will be no need for either one of them to exist and neither of them will.**

# Reciprocity With The Philippines

We publish below the text of a notice issued by the Joint Preparatory Committee on Philippine Affairs relative to Hearings on the adjustment of trade relations between the United States and the Philippine Islands. The Hearings will be held both at Washington and Manila, those at Washington taking place June 15th and 16th, or less than three weeks from the date of the notice. They will have been held by the time this issue of *The Sugar Bulletin* is in the hands of its readers. The hearings in Manila will be held next September, giving the Filipinos plenty time to prepare their arguments, the nature of which is easy to forecast.

The Committee is to study trade relations between the United States and the Philippines and to recommend a program for the adjustment of Philippine national economy, and it was created following conferences between President Quezon of the Philippine Commonwealth and the Interdepartmental Committee on Philippine Affairs, which acted on behalf of President Roosevelt. Assistant Secretary of State, Francis B. Sayre, is Chairman of this Committee.

The Independence Act provides that complete political independence of the Philippines shall become

effective on July 4, 1946, but President Quezon suggested that the date of independence might be advanced to 1938 or 1939 and the committee is expected to consider the bearing which an advancement in the date of independence would have on facilitating or retarding the execution of a program of "economic adjustment" in the Philippines. It is contemplated that trade relations between the two countries after independence occurs will be regulated in accordance with a reciprocal trade agreement.

The text of the notice of the Hearings follows:

*PUBLIC NOTICE*

*Washington, May 28, 1937.*

*Hearings on United States-Philippine Affairs*

The Joint Preparatory Committee on Philippine Affairs was created with the approval of President Roosevelt and President Quezon of the Philippine Commonwealth to study United States-Philippine trade relations and to recommend a program for the adjustment of Philippine national economy. The Committee, in making its recommendations to the two governments, will be guided by the fundamental policies laid down in the joint statement issued by President Quezon and Mr. Francis B. Sayre, Assistant Secretary of State, on March 18, 1937.

To assist the Committee in preparing its recommendations, written statements will be received and public hearings will be held, both in the United States and in the Philippines, in connection with the objectives announced in the Joint Statement of March 18. The statements to be submitted to the Committee may include a consideration of the effects of existing legislation upon the commodities and services involved in the present economic relations between the United States and the Philippines.

Arrangements for the submission of written and brief supplementary oral statements to the Committee in the United States are indicated below. It is expected that public hearings will be held in Manila some time during the month of September.

The Joint Preparatory Committee on Philippine Affairs has prescribed the following rules and regulations to govern the submission of written and supplementary oral statements:

All information and views in writing and all applications for supplemental oral presentation of views shall be submitted to the Committee not later than 12 o'clock noon, June 15, 1937. They should be addressed to "The Joint Preparatory Committee on Philippine Affairs, Room 206, United States Tariff Commission, 8th and E Streets, Washington, D. C." Supplementary oral statements will be heard at a public hearing beginning at 10 o'clock a. m., on June 16, 1937, before the Joint Preparatory Committee on Philippine Affairs, in the hearing room of the United States Tariff Commission in the Old Land Office Building, 8th and E Streets, Washington, D. C.

Written statements must be typewritten, processed, or printed. It is requested that fifteen copies be submitted in order to facilitate study of the briefs by each member of the Committee.

Brief supplementary oral statements may be made to the Committee at the public hearings only by persons who have filed written statements or briefs and who have, within the time prescribed, made written application for a hearing in order that a schedule of appearances may be arranged.

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quested of the Committee for the submission of views.

The Joint Preparatory Committee on Philippine Affairs contemplates the publication of the written and oral statements.

FRANCIS B. SAYRE,
*Acting Chairman,*
*Joint Preparatory Committee on Philippine Affairs.*

## Something New About Mosaic

Students of diseases of sugarcane, and there should be many of them in our Louisiana sugar industry, will be interested in a publication issued by the U. S. Government Printing Office entitled "Transmission of Sugarcane Mosaic by the Rusty Plum Aphid, Hysteroneura Setariae." The authors are Messrs. J. W. Ingraham and E. M. Summers of the U. S. Bureau of Entomology.

The mosaic disease of sugarcane inflicted such incalculable loss on Louisiana about a decade ago that it will be long remembered. Nor may we rest assured that it will not again ravage our fields, although we are now better equipped to avoid its worst effects because we recognize its pathology and appreciate its tremendous power for destruction.

In their summary Messrs. Ingraham and Summers say:

"Until 1933 the corn aphid (*Aphis maidis*) has been the only proved vector of sugarcane mosaic, but preliminary experiments in that year showed that the rusty plum aphid (*Hysteroneura setariae*) was also capable of transmitting the disease.

"The rusty plum aphid is generally distributed on plums throughout most of the United States, with grasses as alternate hosts. On sugarcane plants it usually feeds at the collar lobe at the junction of the leaf blade and the sheath.

"A series of experiments showed that out of 109 healthy plants infested with *Hysteroneura setariae* taken from infected plants, 9 developed the mosaic disease, while 2 out of 9 plants similarly infested with *Aphis maidis* developed symptoms of the disease. A second series of experiments gave 2 transmissions out of 62 exposures with *H. setariae* and 1 out of 3 with *A. maidis*. Another series showed 13 transmissions out of 248 exposures with *H. setariae* and 14 out of 60 with *A. maidis*. Two transfers of the mosaic were made by the feeding of the green bug (*Toxoptera graminum*) after the exposure of 28 healthy plants.

"Although not so effective as *Aphis maidis* in transmisting the mosaic, *Hysteroneura setariae* is present and feeding on the cane throughout the year, whereas the former is present only in the winter and early in the spring."


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## Modernization Of The Audubon Sugar School Factory Louisiana State University

(*By Arthur G. Keller, Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering, Louisiana State University*)

The Louisiana State University with the assistance of the Public Works Administration and the American Sugar Cane League has recently taken steps to convert the Audubon Sugar School Factory into an experimental plant which will be second to none for the study of the problems of the cane sugar industry. The total expenditure contemplated for this project is not to exceed ninety-nine thousand dollars. The contribution of the University to this total is $46,750, the Public Works Administration has supplemented this with a grant of $38,250 and the American Sugar Cane League has volunteered to donate an amount not to exceed $14,000 for use in the purchase of the cane milling plant.

This project contemplates the purchase of a new cane milling plant of the latest design and capable of duplicating and surpassing the performance of the most modern commercial installations. The plant has been designed for extreme flexibility in operation so that it will be an ideal unit for experimental and research studies on cane milling. In addition there are to be purchased a new forty inch high speed belt driven centrifugal, a cane derrick and miscellaneous tanks, pumps, scales and other minor items of equipment needed to round out the present factory equipment. A small two story brick and concrete building is to be erected for use as a combination warehouse and laboratory.

The contract for the centrifugal installation has been awarded to the Western States Machine Company of Hamilton, Ohio. They have agreed to furnish a forty inch Roberts Machine of the latest type, complete with framing, shafting, pulleys, driving motor, automatic control equipment and a sugar discharger. In addition they are furnishing a new mixer complete with the Stevens heat treating system for massecuites.

The contract for the cane milling plant has been awarded to the George L. Squier Manufacturing Company of Buffalo, New York. The installation will consist of an 18" x 24" eleven roller cane mill complete in every respect, including intermediate carriers, Munson type air accumulators, individual, independent, totally enclosed automatically lubricated gearing for each milling unit and an individual variable speed direct current motor to drive each mill and the crusher. A three hundred KW generator set will furnish current for driving the mill and crusher motors. The Ward-Leonard System of speed variation and control is to be used. The mill is to have a deep "V" type juice pan, cut tooth steel roll gearing, solid bronze water cooled bearings and automatic mechanical force feed lubrication on all bearings.

The unit will be able to handle approximately eight tons of cane per hour at thirty-five feet per minute roll speed. It will be capable of operating at a maximum roll speed of seventy feet per minute and a minimum speed of twenty-two feet per minute. The mills will be designed to permit of carrying a maximum working pressure on the top roll of one hundred tons.

A set of revolving cane knives will precede the crusher. The knives are to be belt driven from a fifteen horse-power constant speed A. C. motor. Following the crusher there will be a 24" x 24" cane shredder direct connected to a thirty horsepower constant speed A. C. motor. The shredder and the crusher are to be arranged to permit of by-passing either or both at will when it is desired to carry out tests of their relative efficiencies. The individual units in the milling train will be equipped with instruments to record power consumption; for the mills and crusher the recorders will also measure roll speeds, ram pressures and travel, and thickness of the bagasse blanket. Instruments and control equipment will be mounted on panels located in a special control room at the side of the milling train. The operator stationed at this control board will be able to see and control the operation of the entire plant from this point.

Present indications are that delivery of the plant will be made some time during the latter part of October provided that strikes or other unforeseen causes do not interfere. Delivery at that date would permit of installation and operation of the plant during the coming crop. Work on the mill contract will start within two weeks or as soon as certain formalities required by the PWA have been completed. It is hoped that negotiations presently underway will be successful and that the size of the mill rolls may be increased to 20" x 24" instead of 18" x 24" as at present. The increased size of mill roll is desired so that higher mill roll pressures may be used in experimental work.

A program of work to be carried out in the modernized plant is now in process of formulation by the University Staff in conjunction with the Technical Advisory Committee of the American Sugar Cane League and the representatives of the Carbohydrate Research Division of the Bureau of Chemistry and Soils, U.S.D.A. who expect to do co-operative work at the plant. It is contemplated that two general classes of projects will be undertaken, viz, service projects and research studies. The former will include such things as milling tests on the new varieties of cane as they are developed from year to year, and the determination of normal juice extraction figures on these canes which can be used as a basis in the settlement of cane contracts. Such projects would include also the study of clarification and manipulation of the juices from these canes throughout the entire manufacturing process. New equipment or processes offered to the industry will be studied in this plant and their merits and demerits determined for the information of factory owners and operators. Research projects will include the detailed study of the various factors influencing the efficiency of the cane milling process. Among the factors to be considered are mill settings, turn plate settings, roll speeds, blanket thickness, roll grooving, hydraulic pressure and the amount and method of application of maceration. Studies will also be made of clarification, sugar boiling, refining and the utilization of by-products. A definite program of work will be formulated for each season and the results obtained will be disseminated to the industry through the Technical Committee or in other ways.

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Vol. 15 NEW ORLEANS, LA., JULY 1, 1937 No. 19

## Chairman Jones Proposes Compromise

*(By C. J. Bourg)*

After many weeks of patient and persevering deliberation Congressman Marvin Jones of Texas has introduced a compromise Sugar Bill (H. R. 7667) which has been referred to the Committee on Agriculture, where favorable action is anticipated by the Committee. Considering the controversies surrounding this legislation and the deep-seated differences between producing areas and Departments of the Federal Government, if Mr. Jones is about to secure the approval of his Committee and the favorable action of the House on his Compromise Bill, as it now seems entirely probable that he will, he will have accomplished one of the most difficult legislative transactions in recent Congressional history.

In view of the fact that at the time of this writing the Committee on Agriculture has not met for the purpose of acting on the new Jones Bill, although the Committee has gone over the provisions tentatively, we will restrict ourselves to mere description of what the Bill contains. Naturally, the American Sugar Cane League is very much disappointed that the Jones Bill makes a further reduction in the quota for the continental cane area. The fact remains that the continental cane area produced 437,000 tons of sugar in 1936 and more acreage has been planted for the 1937 crop; therefore, any decrease in the quota for this area below actual production would require a reduction in the plantings and production of sugar cane and sugar within the continental United States, and we must protest against any legislation which attempts to do this. Notwithstanding, we recognize that this is only the first stage in the legislative journey and the acceptance by the House of the Jones Bill would not prevent the Senate from improving our quota status and giving to the continental cane area the same privilege of full production that is accorded to the continental beet area.

The Jones Bill follows the language of the Departmental Redraft which was forwarded by Secretary Wallace to the Sub-committee on April 8th. However, the Jones Bill differs radically from the Departmental proposal on many matters of major importance as will be outlined herein below.

The definition of "liquid sugar" seeks to take care of two troublesome problems. The first is that "syrup of cane juice produced from sugarcane grown in continental United States" is specifically exempted from the quotas and from the tax, so that growers of sugarcane for syrup and producers of syrup in the South would not be affected by this legislation. The second is that the determining factor of "total soluble solids in liquid sugar" is set at "6 percentum or less" in lieu of the "4½ percentum" proposed by the Departments.

Section 201 still contains the provision whereby the Secretary of Agriculture can regulate the supply of sugar so that it will not result in prices in excess of those necessary to make the production of sugar beets and sugarcane as profitable as the production of the five principal agricultural cash crops. As we have stated before, no satisfactory explanation has been given of this yardstick. All we know is that the Bureau of Agricultural Economics has reported official statistics which indicate that the production of such five crops has been unprofitable in the past ten years, hence, we have advocated that the yardstick should be based upon the average price of foods or the retail index price of all foods as published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. We assume that the Senate will go into this matter fully and offer a more practical and less alarming yardstick.

The quota provisions are set up in such a manner as to group the "domestic sugar-producing areas" and to establish a minimum for the total quotas of such areas at 3,715,000 short tons. The effect of this is to give a minimum quota to each of the areas listed, thereby recognizing Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands in the same status as the States of the United States. The Bill provides that 55.59% of the estimated consumption must be pro-rated among the domestic sugar-producing areas, provided such amount is not less than 3,715,000 short tons, on the following basis:

THE
# SUGAR BULLETIN

**407 Carondelet St., New Orleans**

Reginald Dykers, Editor

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The American Cane Growers' Assn.
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| Area | Per Cent | | Tons (minimum quota) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Domestic Beet Sugar | 41.72 | or | 1,549,898 |
| Mainland Cane Sugar | 11.31 | " | 420,166 |
| Hawaii | 25.25 | " | 938,038 |
| Puerto Rico | 21.48 | " | 797,982 |
| Virgin Islands | .24 | " | 8,916 |
| TOTAL | | | 3,715,000 |

The Philippine Islands, Cuba and other foreign countries are given quotas based upon the percentages of the balance, or 44.41%, of the consumption estimate, but no minimum is specified in their case. The basis is:

| Area | Per Cent | | Tons (not a minimum) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Commonwealth of the Philippine Islands | 34.70 | or | 1,029,549 |
| Cuba | 64.41 | " | 1,911,045 |
| Foreign countries other than Cuba | .89 | " | 26,406 |
| TOTAL | | | 2,967,000 |

It will be noted that the quota for the Philippine Islands is greater than their *duty-free quota* under the Independence Act and it is well-known that the Philippines will not bring in any sugar on which they have to pay the world-rate of tariff duty. This is explained by the provision in the Bill which states that if the Philippines surrender any part of their quota then the Secretary shall revise the quotas for "foreign countries other than Cuba" and pro-rate the Philippines' surrender among them. This will give to the Secretary of State Hull an amount of sugar approximating 60,000 tons additional for his reciprocal trade agreements to be made with Peru, Dominican Republic and others.

The controversy of refined sugar which has had more to do with the delay in reporting a Sugar Bill than any other problem, is compromised by Mr. Jones in his Bill by setting out the following refined sugar quotas:

| | Tons of Refined Sugar raw value |
|---|---|
| Hawaii | 29,616 |
| Puerto Rico | 126,033 |
| Virgin Islands | none |
| Philippines | 80.214 |
| Cuba | 375,000 |

It will be noted that there are no changes made in the present refined status of any area, excepting Cuba. The refined sugar quota for 1937 in the case of Cuba is 422,933. The Sub-Committee had recommended a quota of 300,000 and Mr. Jones has proposed 375,000 short tons, raw value.

Since the complaint of Hawaii has been based upon the question of its status, it is evident that the compromise recognizes that status with regard to the grouping of Hawaii among the "domestic sugar-producing areas" and the granting of a *minimum quota* for each such area. Besides, the Jones Bill is now proposed for a three-year term and this eliminates the argument that the legislation is permanent and therefore cannot be considered on an emergency or temporary basis.

The conditional payment provisions relative to child labor requirements except "the member of the immediate family" of the farmer. In the case of minimum wages the authority is restricted to the wages paid for work performed "in the production, cultivation or harvesting of sugar beets or sugarcane."

The benefit payments are to be made on the basis of individual farm allotments "in terms of planted acreage, weight *or* recoverable sugar content." It is understood that the intention is to use "acreage" as the basis in Louisiana, but the Jones Bill leaves this discretionary with the Secretary.

Since compliance with farming practices *determined* by the Secretary, is a requirement to qualify for benefit payments, Mr. Jones has inserted a protective phrase which states that "such practices (are) to be consistent with the reasonable standards of the farming community in which the farm is situated."

There is the provision which states that payments shall be made on the 1937 crop.

The provisions for payments in case of crop failure or crop deficiencies resulting from drought, flood, storm, freeze, disease or insects are made conditional upon such failure of deficiency being prevalent in the "local producing area", which can be the factory district or the parish.

The basis rate of the benefit payment is fixed at 60c per 100 pounds of sugar (which amounts to about 95c per ton of sugarcane depending upon the average sugar recovered per ton). When this rate is taken in connection with the tax rate of 50c per 100 pounds of sugar, the grower comes out better than he would have with a 70c payment and a tax of 75c per 100 pounds of sugar.

There is the provision by which the total payment

to any one farm shall be subject to the following reduction scale:

| That Portion of Sugar Included Within Following Intervals of Short Tons, Raw Value: | Reduction in Base Rate of Payment per cwt. of such Portion: |
|---|---|
| *500 to 1,500 tons of sugar | $0.050 |
| 1,500 to 6,000 " | .075 |
| 6,000 to 12,000 " | .100 |
| 12,000 to 30,000 " | .125 |
| 30,000 to 50,000 " | .300 |
| More than 50,000 " | .450 |

*500 tons of *sugar* equals approximately 6000 tons of *sugarcane.*

The tax of 50c per 100 pounds of 96-degree sugar is to be a tax on "manufactured sugar" which is defined as "any sugar derived from sugar beets or sugarcane, which is not to be, and which shall not be, further refined or otherwise improved in quality;". This definitely places a tax on the final processing of sugar in the form in which it goes into direct consumption. The tax is to become *payable* on sugar "which has been sold or used in the production of other articles by the manufacturer during the preceding month." However, if sugar is held more than twelve months after it is manufactured, the tax will become payable even though it has not been sold or used. The first return and payment of the tax shall not be due until the last day of the second month following the month in which the Sugar Bill becomes a Law. Thereafter, the manufacturer shall file a return each month.

The previous Sugar Bill proposals, except in the case of the Overton-Mouton Bill, were in the nature of permanent legislation without a termination date. The Jones Bill provides that the powers vested in the Secretary and the tax imposed shall terminate on December 31, 1940, except that the Secretary shall have power to complete benefit payments to growers under programs applicable to the crop year 1940 and previous crop years. In other words, the Bill would cover four crop years.

# Root Rot of C. P. 28/19 on Heavy Soils Controlled by Summer Planting

*By R. D. Rands, Senior Pathologist, and E. V. Abbott, Associate Pathologist, Division of Sugar Plant Investigations, Bureau of Plant Industry, United States Department of Agriculture.*

The deplorable condition of C.P. 28/19 fall-plant cane on mixed and heavy soils, which became evident during the month of May, has attracted widespread attention and comment throughout the Louisiana sugar district. The situation is similar to that of last year, but it is now more serious and widespread because of unusual weather conditions and the great extension of this variety onto heavy soils. Most of the fields have exhibited very uneven growth. Some plants appeared vigorous and healthy, but many individual stools, and often for stretches of 20 to 100 feet, all the plants were wilted and stunted. In some fields during late May so many plants were actually dying as to threaten stands which originally had been satisfactory. The trouble has been interpreted as being primarily due to root rot (caused mainly by *Pythium arrhenomanes*), complicated by late spring seed cane deterioration, and accentuated by the dry weather of April and May.

In view of the indispensable use of C.P. 28/19 as the earliest maturing variety, its reaction to disease under the various soil and seasonal conditions has received special study. During the past winter and spring more than 50 fields have been examined by digging up the seed cane in gaps and also periodically inspecting the growth and root systems of the young plants. A review of seasonal and crop conditions and a summary of our findings may give planters a better understanding of the situation and the value of summer planting, which latter we believe may aid materially in profitable use of this variety on heavy soils until a satisfactory substitute is found.

### Weather Conditions, Crop, and Disease Development

The early winter of 1936-37 was normal as to temperature and rainfall, and little deterioration of seed cane occurred. January was abnormally warm at the Houma Station; soil temperatures above 70° F. were recorded on 12 days during the middle of the month (one day above 80°) while the mean temperature for the month was the second highest ever recorded for January at the New Orleans Weather Bureau. Cane growth was stimulated and

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plant cane was marking the rows by the end of the month. Then followed cold wet weather in February and March. The freeze on February 11 and continued cool weather prevented much additional growth in March. The last freeze occurred on March 16, but temperatures in the 30's continued until the first of April. The total rainfall for February and March was not much above average, but the number of rainy days was 33 percent above the average, so that as a result of more even distribution of rainfall, the soil was kept almost constantly wet.

Such conditions were ideal for the development of root rot and for deterioration of seed cane, particularly for a variety like C.P. 28/19 which had made considerable growth earlier and probably greatly exhausted food reserves in the seed cuttings. This undoubtedly further lowered its resistance and vigor, and enabled root rot to frustrate subsequent normal development of shoot roots on many plants. Nevertheless, with abundant soil moisture, good stands were generally reestablished in April and growth was satisfactory until the period of dry weather toward the end of the month. Then, with continued drought in May, there was for the first time revealed above ground the damage from root rot which had taken place during the preceding months. In fields of October-planted C.P. 28/19 on heavy soils, many of the plants became stunted, yellowed, and the leaves rolled—typical symptoms of severe root rot injury. The seed pieces from which these plants had grown were found to be practically devoid of roots, and the few shoot roots that had not been destroyed had developed recently into the upper layers of soil (probably after the rain in early May) where they later became stranded in dry soil. These roots had also been damaged by root rot and soil animals and were inadequate to support the plant.

In some of the worst affected fields the seed cuttings were mostly sound, but in many others had become deteriorated by red rot and Cytospora. Where the shoot roots had not been destroyed but had established themselves in the deeper soil layers where there was adequate moisture, the plants were apparently healthy and making normal growth. Even where there had been some deterioration of the seed cutting this was having little adverse effect on the plant because of its independence of the seed piece. While normal, healthy cane plants are ordinarily by the end of May well established on their own shoot-root systems and, therefore, independent of the mother seed cutting, such was not true for many of

(Continued on page 6)


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the plants in these root-rot affected fields. Therefore, the destruction of seed and shoot roots by root rot, seed deterioration, and the drought was having a disastrous effect. Judging by records on a few affected fields in 1936, losses this year may be expected to vary from a few to 10 or more tons of cane per acre with a small proportion of the fields showing practical crop failure.

Striking exceptions to the above were a few blackland fields that had previously lain idle for a period of years. For example, the October-planted C.P. 28/19 in heavy soils on Salsburg plantation was quite uniform in stand and vigor, which was apparently due to the practical absence of the root rotting Pythium in such long-rested land.

### Comparison with Other Varieties

C.P. 807, C.P. 28/11, C.P. 29/116, and Co. 290, planted under similar conditions and often directly adjacent to many of the above described, severely damaged fields of C.P. 28/19, were generally in excellent condition, which may be ascribed to their greater resistance to root rot. Stands of the 807 and 290 were also good due to the delayed and less extensive spread of red rot this year. A few small October plantings of Co. 281 and C.P. 29/320 on heavy soils were also found and studied. These and the comparative plots at the Houma station confirmed observations and tests of previous years which invariably showed Co. 281 as more susceptible to root rot but less damaged by seed-piece troubles than C.P. 28/19. C.P. 29/320 is more resistant than either to root rot, but decidedly less resistant to red rot which, as mentioned in previous reports, sometimes seriously affects stands of this variety in heavy soils.

### Summer Planting of C.P. 28/19

The condition above described for C.P. 28/19 was confined largely to cane planted in late September or early October. Late fall plantings were better but, as already mentioned, injury to both was most severe on mixed and heavy soils.

In striking contrast on all soils were the smaller summer plantings made last August and even in early September which were generally in excellent condition both as to stand and growth. Similar comparisons last year of a smaller number of summer-planted fields also favored the earlier planting date for C.P. 28/19. Most of these widely scattered summer-planted fields of all varieties are of the nature of trial plantings put out in response to various experiment station recommendations. Stevens, writing in *"The Sugar Bulletin"* for March 15, 1930, suggested that such be tried to improve the sugar content of plant cane. Arceneaux has reported the results of annual experimental comparisons on date of planting extending over many years (see *Sugar Bulletins* of September 1, 1933 and August 1, 1936). With most of the recently introduced varieties he invariably obtained better stands and more sugar per ton of cane and per acre from plantings made in August than from October 1 or later. While his plots were not regularly examined by us, many of the differences between varieties and between different planting dates of the same variety undoubtedly reflected differences in disease damage. Abbott has further emphasized (*Sugar Bulletin*, July 15, 1936) the value of summer planting for avoidance of red-rot damage. Therefore, on the basis of experimental tests and two years' observations of widely scattered plantation trials, it is safe to conclude that summer planting offers a means for at least partially getting around the two principal pathological weaknesses of C.P. 28/19, namely, root rot and seed-piece deterioration.

If C.P. 28/19 could be limited to light lands, there probably would be little difficulty with these diseases, but with Co. 281 of necessity occupying a large portion of the sandy lands on most plantations, C.P. 28/19 is forced onto the heavier soils. The difficulties in the way of planting a very large acreage of black land in August are obvious, and such planting is, of course, impossible on small places where all the rotational fields must be devoted to corn which could not be harvested in time for such early planting of cane. While frequent recurrence of the particular weather conditions which indirectly brought on such serious consequences this year, or even those of last year, is unlikely, there is nevertheless a considerable hazard of low yields from regular fall planting of C.P. 28/19 in heavy soils. Therefore, where it can be done economically, summer planting appears to offer a solution for some of the difficulties encountered in the successful commercial utilization of this variety on such land.

## Co-Ordinated Effort And Persistence Rewarded

*(By C. J. Bourg)*

The final adoption of the Appropriation Bill for the Department of Agriculture will bring to a close a long drawn out but very worthwhile battle on the

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part of the American Sugar Cane League for complete housing and laboratory accommodations at the Houma Sugar Station.

Many years ago when the project was first began, the League set up a small frame building on a site purchased from Southdown Plantation. It was not long before two additional frame buildings were required and constructed. Just as we were contemplating more commodious quarters, a fire destroyed one of the frame buildings.

Thereupon the suggestion was made to have one of adequate fire-proof construction and the American Sugar Cane League proceeded to negotiate with the P.W.A. and other relief agencies of the Federal Government for the financing of a project. In the midst of negotiations, with attendant delays and complications, Senator John H. Overton of Louisiana decided to ask the Appropriations Committee of the Senate to set aside the sum of $100.000 for a government building. This proposal met with the immediate approval of the Department of Agriculture and the American Sugar Cane League, and the Overton Amendment was voted by the Senate. But when the matter went to conference, the House conferees made the point that the matter should have been handled in the regular order and should have originated in the House. Congressman Rene DeRouen took up the cudgels on the House side in the hope of overcoming this technicality, and for a time a majority of the House conferees agreed to his request. But the Chairman of the Appropriations Committee finally decided that it might prove to be a dangerous precedent and while he had no objection to the project in question, he would have to insist upon the prerogatives of the House. He suggested that the item be included in the next regular Appropriation Bill for the Department of Agriculture.

This meant the delay of a year, but when the budget estimate was made up for 1937, the item of $100,000 for buildings and improvements at the Houma Sugar Station appeared among the approved appropriations for the Department of Agriculture.

Congressman Joachim Fernandez of Louisiana is a member of the House Appropriations Committee and he personally took charge of piloting this appropriation through the Committee and the House of Representatives. Congressman Robert L. Mouton appeared before the Subcommittee and made a complete statement of justification for the project. Congressman Fernandez was entirely successful, through his accustomed diligence, in securing the approval of the Committee on Appropriations and later of the House of Representatives.

When the Bill went to the Senate and was referred to the Committee on Appropriations, the wave of economy was at its height in Congress and each new project was voted on separately in Committee. Senator Allen J. Ellender had naturally become personally interested in this project because of the fact that it means so much to the sugar industry and that it will be located in his home town. He joined with Senator Overton, who is a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, in sponsoring the appropriation of $100,000, which they explained to be so helpful and so necessary to the progress and efficiency of sugarcane culture and processing. Our Senators were able to have the item approved without change in the Senate, so that it did not become the subject of conference between the two branches of Congress.

These details are recited to show how actively and successfully the various members of the Louisiana Congressional Delegation are working, and how each one plays his part in a coordinated manner for the best interests of Louisiana. We also desired to explain the many difficulties that have to be overcome and the persistence required over a period of years to bring to final conclusion a proposition of this kind. It demonstrates too the vigilant cooperation and continuous effort jointly contributed by the Louisiana Congressional Delegation and the American Sugar Cane League.

## F L A S H !

***Washington, D. C., June 28th.***

***Reginald Dykers,***
***V. P. & G. M. American***
***Sugar Cane League,***
***New Orleans:***

**Conference Committee approved one hundred thousand dollar appropriation for Houma Experiment Station and Senate has just adopted Committee Report.**

***Allen J. Ellender,***
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Science, La. State Un
Baton Rouge, La.

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We stand for the encouragement of Home Industries as against foreign competition.

Vol. 15 NEW ORLEANS, LA., JULY 15, 1937 No. 20

## Some Comments On Pending Legislation

*(By C. J. Bourg)*

The first stage in the legislative journey of the Sugar Bill was accomplished when the House Committee on Agriculture unanimously reported the Jones Bill (H. R. 7667) with three amendments. The Bill as reported represents a series of compromises worked out by Chairman Marvin Jones, in which each area, group, or interested official has been forced to yield something in order to get a Bill passed at this Session of Congress.

In the last issue of the *Sugar Bulletin* we discussel in some detail the compromise proposals. The amendments agreed to by the Committee on Agriculture are as follows:

In the table of reductions in the base rate of payment to growers of large amounts of sugarcane, the Committee decided that the greatest reduction would be 30c per cwt., which would apply on all tonnage "more than 30,000 tons of sugar," which equals approximately 360,000 tons of sugarcane. It will be remembered that the table of reductions in the original compromise Bill had provided for a reduction of 45c above 50,000 tons of sugar. The way the provisions now stand, all growers are to receive 60c per cwt. of sugar when the production is less than 500 tons of sugar, or approximately 6,000 tons of sugarcane. After this amount is reached, the reductions are gradually made in the following manner:

Between 500 and 1500 tons of sugar (6,000 and 18,000 tons of sugarcane), the payment will be 55c per cwt. of sugar.

Between 1500 and 6,000 tons of sugar (18,000 and 72,000 tons of sugarcane), the payment will be 52.5c per cwt. of sugar.

Between 6,000 and 12,000 tons of sugar (72,000 and 144,000 tons of sugarcane), the payment will be 50c per cwt. of sugar.

Between 12,000 and 30,000 tons of sugar (144,000 and 360,000 tons of sugarcane), the payment will be 47.5c per cwt. of sugar.

More than 30,000 tons of sugar (360,000 tons of sugarcane), the payment will be 30c per cwt. of sugar.

This amendment will probably only affect large plantations in Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and Florida, although the reductions in several of the lower brackets will be applicable to plantations in Louisiana.

A second amendment has been made on page 26 of H. R. 7667 by the addition of a qualifying sentence, the effect of which will be to make molasses when used in the distillation of alcohol, subject to the tax of ½c per pound of sugar raw value, which is estimated to be approximately 3c per gallon of blackstrap molasses. In order to present the amendment comprehensively, we will reproduce below the entire Section 401 (b), indicating the amendment in capital letters, to-wit:

> "The term 'manufactured sugar' means any sugar derived from sugar beets or sugarcane, which is not to be, and which shall not be, further refined or otherwise improved in quality; except sugar in liquid form which contains nonsugar solids (excluding any foreign substance that may have been added) equal to more than 6 per centum of the total soluble solids, and except also sirup of cane juice produced from sugarcane grown in continental United States. NOTWITHSTANDING THE FOREGOING EXCEPTIONS, SUGAR IN LIQUID FORM (REGARDLESS OF ITS NONSUGAR SOLID CONTENT) WHICH IS TO BE USED IN THE DISTILLATION OF ALCOHOL SHALL BE CONSIDERED MANUFACTURED SUGAR."

It should be stated that the tax of ½c is to be applied on "manufactured sugar", as defined above.

The third amendment is purely corrective, so that the application of the tax to molasses used for alcohol shall not be the subject of a refund.

It is interesting to note that the origin of this amendment was not from sugar sources. It was first suggested, in general terms, by the American Farm Bureau Federation in the testimony of its representative before the sub-committee conducting hearings on the original Jones Bill. Subsequently various organized groups of grain farmers in the Middle West decided to urge an amendment by which the impor-

THE
# SUGAR BULLETIN

407 Carondelet St., New Orleans

Reginald Dykers, Editor

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The American Cane Growers' Assn.
The Producers & Mfrs. Protective Assn
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tation of molasses for the distillation of alcohol would be restricted in some way in order that the use of grain for the distillation of alcohol might be stimulated. It is the old fight for "protection", which in former days was accomplished by the tariff. Those of you who followed the tariff fights of former years will remember that the American Farm Bureau Federation and other organizations representing grain farmers have always advocated a much higher rate of tariff against molasses, always with the idea of "protecting" the grain farmers against competition in the distillation of alcohol. There are many grain alcohol distilleries in the Illinois area which are either closed or are working at less than capacity. It is the idea of the proponents of the tax on molasses that the price of molasses would be increased by the amount of the tax, which would put it on a less advantageous competitive basis with grains.

Your attention is directed to the fact that the original Jones Bill exempted molasses when used for the purpose of distillation of alcohol and for livestock feed. The Congressmen from the Middle West who proposed the amendment were careful not to include molasses used for livestock feed, because in that case the farmer is the purchaser or consumer and he prefers to get his livestock feed at the lowest cost. Therefore, the Congressmen in question very neatly left the exemption in favor of molasses used for livestock feed, but singled out molasses used for the distillation of alcohol for taxing purposes.

The Jones Bill having been reported to the House with an unanimous vote of the Committee, must now await its place on the calendar under the general Rules of the House before it can be considered. In other words the Jones Bill must stand in line, unless the Committee on Rules should report a Special Rule under which the Sugar Bill could be considered immediately. The Committee on Agriculture authorized its Chairman to request such a Special Rule, but at the time of this writing, the Committee on Rules has not met to consider the request.

It is rather useless to engage in any discussion of what is liable to happen, or when, because the continental sugar industry is faced with the opposition of the Departments of State, Agriculture, and Interior, who are still insisting upon modifications for the benefit of Cuba and other foreign countries, and for Hawaii and Puerto Rico, and, in the case of the Secretary of Agriculture, a tax rate of ¾c. Whether the Cabinet Officers will impress their objections to the extent of preventing consideration by Congress is anybody's guess, although it seems paradoxical that the Departments of our National Administration should have combined to force changes that are objectionable and unacceptable to the continental sugar industry.

The following excerpts from the Report of the House Committee on Agriculture are significant:

"GENERAL STATEMENT

"This bill has the purpose of providing for the stabilization of the sugar producing, refining, and importing industries.

"The President in his message to Congress of March 1, 1937, stated that "The Jones-Costigan Act has been useful and effective and it is my belief that its principles should again be made effective." He recommended to the Congress "the enactment of the sugar-quota system, and its necessary complements, which will restore the operation of the principles on which the Jones-Costigan Act was based." He also recommended that adequate safeguards to protect all interests be provided in the legislation; that the consumer be protected against unreasonable prices; that our foreign markets be protected by retaining the shares of foreign countries in the established quotas; that if the domestic sugar industry is to obtain the advantage of a quota system it ought to be a good employer and to carry this out, legislation should prevent child labor and assure reasonable wages; that the small family size farm should be encouraged by the payment of higher benefits; and that an excise tax could and ought to be imposed on sugar manufacturing.

"The committee is of opinion that the principles outlined in the President's message are essentials of adequate and fair sugar legislation and the bill reported herewith carries out these principles. In evolving this legislation the committee has held extensive hearings at which every interested party was heard. Following that, long executive sessions and frequent conferences with Governmnt officials familiar with the sugar problem were held."

* * * * *

"CONSUMER SAFEGUARDS

"The interests of the consumer have been fully safeguarded, the measure will prevent run-away prices that have sometimes prevailed when there was no regulation. It is the belief of the committee that no hardship to the consumer will result from its provisions, but that on the other hand he will profit by a

stabilized reasonable price. It is common knowledge that sugar has always been perhaps the least expensive of the major food commodities. Under the Jones-Costigan Act, which was in all essential respects the same type of law as the one reported, sugar did not increase materially in price. Indeed, it did not increase in price in any manner comparable to the increase in price of all foods nor to the increase in price of any particular other major food. The following table of index numbers of food prices issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in May of this year establishes this fact conclusively:

*Index numbers of retail costs of food, by commodity groups*

(3-year average 1923-25=100)

| Commodity Group | May 18, 1937† | Apr. 13, 1937 | Mar. 16, 1937 | May 19, 1936 | May 15, 1933 | May 15, 1929 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| All foods | 86.5 | 85.6 | 85.4 | 79.9 | 62.5 | 102.4 |
| Cereals and bakery products | 95.2 | 93.8 | 92.9 | 90.7 | 71.0 | 98.0 |
| Meats | 99.7 | 97.7 | 95.4 | 93.2 | 64.1 | 122.6 |
| Dairy products | 80.1 | 81.6 | 83.6 | 75.2 | 63.7 | 102.1 |
| Eggs | 61.8 | 64.7 | 64.3 | 59.6 | 44.0 | 80.6 |
| Fruits and vegetables | 83.1 | 80.0 | 80.5 | 70.1 | 59.3 | 93.1 |
| Fresh | 83.0 | 79.5 | 80.1 | 69.9 | 59.5 | 91.8 |
| Canned | 83.2 | 82.8 | 82.6 | 78.2 | 66.0 | 97.8 |
| Dried | 76.6 | 76.4 | 76.0 | 57.8 | 51.2 | 102.4 |
| Beverages and chocolate | 69.7 | 69.6 | 69.3 | 67.6 | 67.7 | 110.8 |
| Fats and oils | 78.9 | 80.2 | 80.3 | 74.2 | 48.0 | 93.5 |
| Sugar and sweets | 66.1 | 66.0 | 65.6 | 64.1 | 60.0 | 72.6 |

†Preliminary.

"It is to be noted that whereas from May, 1933 to May, 1937 all foods had increased from 62.5 to 86.5, sugar increased only from 60 to 66.1. Sugar prices are still materially lower than the 1929 price of 72.6. The Jones-Costigan Act was passed in 1934 and has been continuously in effect since that time. If that act did not have the effect of increasing consumer prices, how can this one be said to do so? The reason why sugar has not increased in price during the life of the Jones-Costigan Act and will not under the proposed bill lies in two factors: First, a stabilized sugar industry can conduct its business so as to avoid the violent fluctuations in supply and demand which cause not only unreasonably low prices but also unreasonably high prices; and, second, Congress in its sugar legislation has been careful to safeguard the interests of consumers. It is to be noted that the Secretary of Agriculture has the power and duty of fixing the basis for quotas so that the consumer will be protected and in no case is the quota system to result in prices which will make sugar production in the United States more profitable than the production of the five major cash agricultural commodities. Further, this bill in no way disturbs the reduced rate of tariff on Cuban sugar proclaimed shortly after the enactment of the Jones-Costigan Act. The tax of one-half cent per pound in the bill is the same rate as provided in the Jones-Costigan Act, and so no increased burden can come to consumers from this provision."

# Mosaic Control On Godchaux Properties

*(A paper by Mr. C. L. Denley read at the meeting of the Contact Committee of the American Sugar Cane League held in Baton Rouge, La., June 18th, 1937)*

"The paper which I am about to present will be a brief account of our work on the plantation of Godchaux Sugars, Inc., during the past 4 years in attempting to control Mosaic disease in our cane fields.

"Insofar as our present varieties are concerned, attempts to rid our fields of Mosaic disease began during the summer of 1934, and our first selected seed was planted in the fall of 1934. While a certain amount of care has been taken to use the healthiest seed cane from a Mosaic standpoint in the recently released varieties, such as C.P. 28-19 and C.P. 29-320, our efforts have centered chiefly on Co. 281. We were particularly concerned with this variety because we realized the great importance of maintaining in a healthy and vigorous condition the only variety of cane we had at that time which could be depended upon to keep in windrow. We were less concerned about the P.O.J. varieties because newer varieties were showing promise of replacing them and because these P.O.J. varieties were at that time practically 100% Mosaic-infected.

Surveys of our fields during the late summer of 1934 showed very high percentages of Mosaic in Co. 281 on all of our properties, the majority of fields showing Mosaic counts of 80 to 95%. The best areas we could locate to be used for seed purposes were approximately 25% Mosaic, and these were small isolated areas.

Because of this dearth of Mosaic-free Co. 281 on our properties, we made a survey of other sections of the cane belt, and found a part of the Co. 281 on Mr. Walter Godchaux's Rosewood Plantation, near Simmsport, sufficiently low in Mosaic to make rogueing practical. A few acres of this cane was rogued

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in early August of 1934 and the seed cane shipped to Reserve and planted in October. In addition one acre was planted on Rosewood with selected seed which was 100% Mosaic-free.

The case history of the Co. 281 from the above source which was planted on Reserve was as follows: Counts made Oct. 1st, 1934, at time of cutting for seed, 2% Mosaic. No rogueing was done on this cane at Reserve at any time. Mosaic counts made in this Plant Cane in August 1935, showed an average of 16%, some areas being as high as 20% and some as low as 10%. In July, 1936 the percentage of Mosaic in this same cane, which was then First Stubble, had increased to 75% with some areas almost 100% Mosaic. As stated above, no attempt was made to control the spread of Mosaic in this cane by rogueing.

In this same year, 1934., we secured a quantity of Co. 281 from Mr. H. K. Bubenzer, of near Bunkie, which contained only a trace of Mosaic, less than 1%. This seed was planted on Elm Hall Plantation at Napoleonville and again we made no attempt to control the spread of Mosaic by rogueing during either 1935 or 1936. As plant cane, in Sept. 1935, we found the percentage of Mosaic to be 8%, and in Sept. 1936 the counts in this cane as First Stubble, showed 60% Mosaic.

As a third project, in the Fall of 1934 we selected from our local seed, which was very high in Mosaic percentages, canes which appeared to be Mosaic-free and planted one acre on each of two isolated areas. Apparently much of this seed had contracted Mosaic before being cut for seed, as quite a bit of it showed Mosaic upon germination, and counts made in June showed 33% Mosaic in one case and 39% Mosaic on the other location.

In the fall of 1935 we shipped a quantity of Co. 281 from Elm Hall to Raceland, this being cane which had come originally from Bubenzer, in 1934, and which showed 8% Mosaic at the time it was cut for shipment to Raceland. Four areas were selected for this seed which were partially isolated; that is, they were not adjoining varieties which were heavily infected with Mosaic, such as the P.O.J. varieties and local Co. 281. We attempted to keep these areas free of Mosaic by rogueing, with the following results:

Plot No. 1—Rogued in late May—10% Mosaic.
Counts in mid June—25% Mosaic.
No further rogueing.
Counts at Planting time—68% Mosaic.

Plot No. 2—Rogued in late May—11% Mosaic.
Rogued in mid June—12% Mosaic.
Counts at Planting time—26% Mosaic.

Plot No. 3—Rogued in early June—9% Mosaic.
Rogued in late June—13% Mosaic.
Counts at Planting time—41% Mosaic.

Plot No. 4—Rogued in late June—16% Mosaic.
Counts in early June—30%Mosaic.
No further rogueing done.
Counts at planting time—53% Mosaic.

You will note from the above outline that we have done most of our work in rogueing out Mosaic on Rosewood Plantation. When we first began our attempts to control Mosaic in 281, we decided to keep a supply of healthy seed on Rosewood for shipment to our other properties and find out how long this cane would remain Mosaic-free in south Louisiana. This decision was influenced by the fact that there are no cane borers at Rosewood thus making the seed more desirable from that standpoint, by the fact that Mosaic spread appeared to be lighter on Rosewood, and because we did not feel justified in undertaking rogueing this variety on too great a scale until we had made a further study of the problem.

During the two years, 1935 and 1936, we planted Co. 281 on Rosewood Plantation from our original one acre of selected healthy seed and kept this cane free of Mosaic by rogueing until at the present time practically all of the Co. 281 on this plantation, both plant and stubble is suitable for seed purposes. Counts made recently showed 5% Mosaic in the plant cane and 6% in the stubble, and this is being rogued at the present time. This has been accomplished by rogueing twice each year, taking out an average of about 4% each year. Care was used, also, in planting this cane in areas some distance from other canes with high percentages of Mosaic.

In addition to the 281, we have rogued out the small percentages of Mosaic which appeared in 28-19 and 29-320 for seed purposes, and have rogued and kept Mosaic-free a considerable acreage of Co. 290. With the destruction this fall of some P.O.J. 36 second stubble and a few acres of 290 and 281 stubble, we will have Rosewood almost Mosaic-free in 1938. This is the fulfillment of a dream of a few years ago, and has been accomplished without an expenditure of any great amount of money. Whether or not this feat can be accomplished in South Louisiana where the Mosaic spread is much greater is highly problematical. The fact that the P.O.J. varieties, which were 100% Mosaic in practically all cases, have been replaced with varieties which have much lower percentages of Mosaic should simplify this problem.

In the fall of 1936, last year, Co. 281 seed cane with about 4% Mosaic was shipped from Rosewood to Elm Hall and to Reserve, and at the first rogueing which was completed last week at Elm Hall we removed 5% of this cane. No rogueing has been done at Reserve, but the Mosaic counts indicated very little spread up to about 10 days ago.

During the past two years the increase of Mosaic in Co. 290 has been rather rapid on our properties, some areas being as high as 65%, and the best we were able to locate for use as seed cane in the fall of 1936 ran about 12% Mosaic. For this reason, we planted a few acres of Mosaic-free Co. 290 on Rosewood, kept it rogued out and shipped the seed cane to Elm Hall. Rogueing in this cane has been light, both at Rosewood and at Elm Hall. The importance of keeping 290 free of Mosaic has not been established, but we are attempting to keep this variety as healthy as possible.

We have given you above an outline of the work we have done on Mosaic control. Our conclusions from these experiences are as follows:

(1) Selection of healthy canes from fields carrying a high percentage of Mosaic is not practical, as the labor involved is costly and apparently much of the cane is Mosaic-infected even though the leaf pattern does not indicate Mosaic.

(2) Mosaic-free Co. 281 seed cane can be successfully grown in sections where the spread of Mosaic is light, such as Rosewood Plantation. Rogueing is necessary even on these areas but due to the light spread, the cost is not so high as to make the operation impractical.

(3) The task of keeping seed areas free of Mosaic can be made much easier and the cost lower if isolated sections of the plantations are used for the seed plots.

(4) Judging from the amount of Mosaic spread in our seed areas during 1935, rogueing in South Louisiana would not have been nearly so heavy as in 1936. This could be attributed to two possible causes; 1st, we started with seed of only 1% to 2% Mosaic in 1935, while in 1936 our planted seed was 8% Mosaic; 2nd, the natural spread of Mosaic was much greater in 1936 than in 1935.

(5) The problem of the elimination of Mosaic from our Co. 281 and Co. 290 on a large plantation scale is complicated by the fact that isolation seems so essential to Mosaic control and isolation is so difficult. Due to the fact that these varieties have very definite soil requirements, we find it necessary to plant healthy seed cane next to stubble of the same variety which is high in Mosaic.

(6) Since it is a rather definitely established fact that we can produce Mosaic-free seed cane on selected areas but probably will not be able to maintain this Mosaic free condition thru the stubble years, the dollars and cents value of starting with healthy seed as compared with planting seed cane with a high percentage of Mosaic becomes a pertinent research problem on which we need more definite information.


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# The Effect of New Sugar Cane Varieties on the Louisiana Sugar Industry

*By: E. C. Simon, Assistant Sugar Cane Investigator*
*Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station*

[Report to the Contact Committee of The American Sugar Cane League, May 14, 1937]

The Louisiana sugar industry now occupies a satisfactory agricultural position as a result of varieties of sugar cane adapted to the various regions and soil types of the sugar district.

The P.O.J. hybrid varieties were placed under cultivation to replace the "noble" canes, which had become unprofitable as a result of a combination of diseases.

Though the P.O.J. canes were satisfactory as a stop gap to insure against further losses from diseases, it was believed that through intensive investigational work varieties better adapted to Louisiana conditions could be secured. Such intensive investigational work was undertaken by both the United States Department of Agriculture, and the Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station, and as a result more desirable varieties have practically replaced the P.O.J. varieties as commercial canes.

From a low figure of 47,166 short tons of sugar in 1926, the P.O.J. canes caused an increase to 199,609 short tons of sugar in 1929, which was the first year a full crop of these varieties was under commercial cultivation. Since 1929 there has been a replacement of the P.O.J. varieties by newer canes, and the production of sugar has increased from 199,609 short tons, to 383,514 short tons in 1936.

While the large increase in sugar production may be assumed to be the result of increased acreage and better cultivation as well as of the more desirable newer varieties that have replaced the P.O.J. canes, the part played by the newer varieties is more important than at first appears. Soon after the P.O.J. canes came under general cultivation it was found that they were neither as desirable nor as disease resistant as was expected. During the first few years of its cultivation P.O.J. 213 gave promise of being the best general purpose variety of the group, but after coming under extended culture this variety developed an extreme susceptibility to the red rot disease which restricted plantings to only the best, well drained lands.

With P.O.J. 213 practically eliminated as a commercial variety, the Louisiana sugar industry would have been forced to rely on the remaining P.O.J. canes, 234, 36, and 36M, had no substitutes been available. While the sucrose content of P.O.J. 234 was high and it was early in maturity and could be grown generally throughout the entire sugar cane area, tonnage yields were comparatively low, and the variety was a poor stubbler. The varieties P.O.J. 36 and 36M, though very vigorous and good stubblers capable of producing satisfactory field yields, were not generally adapted to the entire sugar district due to their comparatively low sucrose contents.

A summary of the varietal situation with data relative to changes and performance may best be presented in tabular form. The tables that follow are so arranged as to make each more or less self explanatory. Table I gives statistical production data for the years 1926-1936 inclusive. Table II gives data on the acreage replacements of varieties in the 1935 and 1936 crops, the 1935 data being based on actual measured acreages of varieties made by the A.A.A. under their crop control program, while the data for the 1936 acreages were secured from other sources and represent a cross section of the Louisiana Sugar District. Table III gives data obtained at the Louisiana Sugar Experiment Station during the 1936 crop, relative to the performance of the newer varieties as compared with P.O.J. 234.

(Continued on Page 7)

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Table I

PRODUCTION OF SUGAR IN LOUISIANA, 1926-1936, INCLUSIVE

| Year | Production in short tons | Notes on replacement of varieties |
|---|---|---|
| 1926 | 47,166 | |
| 1927 | 70,792) | Beginning of influence of the P. O. J. |
| 1928 | 132,053) | varieties. |
| 1929 | 199,609 | The first year a full crop of the P. O. J. varieties were grown. |
| 1930 | 185,693) | P. O. J. 213 proved to be very susceptible |
| 1931 | 156,617) | to the red rot disease and it became necessary to replace this variety which was done largely with the low tonnage variety P. O. J. 234. |
| 1932 | 222,760) | Greatly increased plantings of Co. 281 |
| 1933 | 204,760) | and C. P. 807 were made as the supply of "seed cane" became available. |
| 1934 | 234,000 | A rapid expansion of the plantings of Co. 281 took place replacing much of the P. O. J. 234 and some P. O. J. 36 and 36M. Increased plantings of Co. 290 were also made replacing mainly P. O. J. 36 and 36M, and some C. P. 807 and P. O. J. 234. |
| 1935 | 333,000 | The rapid replacement of the P. O. J. varieties continued throughout the entire Sugar District. Co. 281, C. P. 807, Co. 290 had become three of the main field varieties. |
| 1936 | 383,514 | The replacement of the P. O. J. varieties continued, large increases were made in the plantings of all newer varieties except C. P. 807 which had shown a susceptibility to the red rot disease and was partly replaced by plantings of Co. 290 and C. P. 28-11. C. P. 28-19 and C. P. 28-11 became field varieties, and C. P. 29-320 was rapidly being increased for "seed cane" purposes. |

Table II

VARIETAL REPLACEMENTS IN 1935 AND 1936

| Variety | Percent Acreage of 1935 Crop | 1936 Crop |
|---|---|---|
| "Noble" canes | 1.444 | * |
| P. O. J. 234 | 18.927 | 5.240 |
| P. O. J.'s 36 and 36M | 25.873 | 4.270 |
| P. O. J. 213 | 7.687 | 4.390 |
| Total % of acreage in "noble" and P. O. J.'s | 53.931 | 13.900 |
| Co. 281 | 21.788 | 46.700 |
| C. P. 807 | 11.535 | 6.090 |
| Co. 290 | 10.842 | 16.290 |
| C. P. 28-19 | 1.210 | 9.630 |
| C. P. 28-11 | .514 | 5.900 |
| C. P. 29-320 | .180 | 1.490 |
| Total % of acreage in newer varieties | 46.069 | 86.100 |

*Not regarded as commercially important.

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Table III

VARIETAL PERFORMANCE AT THE LOUISIANA SUGAR EXPERIMENT STATION SEASON 1936

| Variety | PLANT CANE Harvested 12/5/36 | | | FIRST STUBBLE CANE Harvested 10/28/36 | | | SECOND STUBBLE CANE Harvested 10/27/36 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 96° Sugar Ton Cane | Tons Cane Per Acre | 96° Sugar Per Acre | 96° Sugar Ton Cane | Tons Cane Per Acre | 96° Sugar Per Acre | 96° Sugar Ton Cane | Tons Cane Per Acre | 96° Sugar Per Acre |
| P. O. J. 234 | 139.04 | 23.99 | 3336 | 166.25 | 17.24 | 2866 | 142.09 | 10.16 | 1444 |
| Co. 281 | 155.07 | 29.95 | 4644 | 124.59 | 23.38 | 2913 | 147.11 | 19.78 | 2910 |
| C. P. 28-11 | 157.17 | 29.58 | 4649 | 151.16 | 29.00 | 4384 | 170.01 | 23.56 | 4005 |
| C. P. 28-19 | 176.63 | 31.76 | 5610 | 191.98 | 21.42 | 4112 | 188.71 | 22.29 | 4206 |
| C. P. 807 | 163.83 | 37.13 | 6083 | 146.30 | 30.06 | 4398 | 133.30 | 27.19 | 3624 |
| Co. 290 | 138.68 | 35.21 | 4883 | 150.46 | 36.01 | 5418 | 158.23 | 32.96 | 5215 |
| C. P. 29-320 | 170.01 | 35.54 | 6042 | 179.70 | 29.51 | 5303 | 196.62 | 24.21 | 4760 |
| C. P. 29-103 | 157.37 | 35.79 | 5632 | 158.91 | 27.33 | 4343 | | | |
| C. P. 29-116 | 136.77 | 44.76 | 6122 | 138.37 | 36.01 | 4983 | | | |

| Variety | 96° Sugar Per Acre P. C. | 96° Sugar Per Acre P.C. & 1st S.C. | 96° Sugar Per Acre P.C. 1st & 2nd S.C. | Percentage increase in sugar yields Newer varieties over P.O.J. 234; P.O.J. 234 Value 100% P. C. | P.C. & 1st S.C. | P.C. & 1st & 2nd S.C. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| P. O. J. 234 | 3336 | 6202 | 7646 | 100% | 100% | 100% |
| Co. 281 | 4644 | 7557 | 10467 | 139% | 122% | 137% |
| C. P. 28-11 | 4649 | 9033 | 13038 | 139% | 146% | 170% |
| C. P. 28-19 | 5610 | 9722 | 13928 | 168% | 157% | 182% |
| C. P. 807 | 6083 | 10481 | 14105 | 182% | 169% | 184% |
| Co. 290 | 4883 | 10301 | 15516 | 146% | 166% | 203% |
| C. P. 29-320 | 6042 | 11345 | 16105 | 181% | 183% | 211% |
| C. P. 29-103 | 5632 | 9975 | | 169% | 161% | |
| C. P. 29-116 | 6122 | 11105 | | 184% | 179% | |

The yield of 96° sugar per ton of cane was calculated from actual extraction figures obtained on the Experiment Station Mill—in Boiling House efficiency Number of 97 per cent was used.

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# THE SUGAR BULLETIN

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Baton Rouge, La.

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We stand for the encouragement of Home Industries as against foreign competition.

Vol. 15 NEW ORLEANS, LA., AUGUST 1, 1937 No. 21

## Questionable Statistics

The estimate of 376,000 tons of sugar, raw value, for the Louisiana sugar production in 1937, as made on July 12th, 1937 by Mr. H. H. Schutz, Statistician for the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics at New Orleans, has occasioned a great deal of surprise among those familiar with the Louisiana sugarcane crop situation.

Naturally any estimate of an agricultural crop made several months before its harvest is liable to miss the mark, because the weather has so much to do with the final outcome. Such estimates, however, are usually based on the prevalence of normal weather and are supposed to reflect the condition at the time of the forecast and the progress that will be made under average weather conditions thereafter. We take it for granted that Mr. Schutz's prophecy is made on that sort of basis.

Since the introduction of the new varieties of cane the Louisiana sugar crop has increased very bountifully. There are now a number of these new varieties, such as C. P. 28-19, C. P. 28-11, Co. 281, Co. 290, C. P. 29-320, and others. Some of these varieties are best adapted to one kind of soil and some to another; some are grown for early maturity and some for late maturity. One variety, in particular, is well adapted for windrowing. It is only by using the dif ferent varieties in the manner, and under the conditions, suitable to each, that they really show what they can do, and it is only in the last two or three years that there has been a supply ample enough to enable the sugar planters to use them with the proper discrimination and give to each its proper environment. Since this became possible the upward trend of the Louisiana crops has been rapid, as follows: 1934, 234,000 tons; 1935, 339,000 tons; 1936, 385,000 tons.

The general opinion among our people is that this upward trend shows no sign of interruption in 1937. We have heard no one forecast less than 400,000 tons for this year, and have heard forecasts up as high as 450,000 tons. The consensus of opinion, however, is between 410,000 and 425,000 tons. We find none of the large cane buyers, whose business requires them to judge a cane crop accurately, who expect a crop smaller than 1936 and most of them expect 10% to 15% more, with the views of some running higher. This expectation is based on the substantial grounds that the acreage is larger than in 1936 and the adaptation of the right variety to the right soil is even more general than was possible in 1936. The importance of this last factor is very great, as is shown by the fact that the 1936 crop of 385,000 tons of sugar was made on a smaller acreage than the 1935 crop of 339,000 tons of sugar. In 1937 both the acreage and the adaptation are greater than in 1936.

At the present time there is pending in Congress legislation, largely dictated by the Administration, that fixes among other things, the quota of cane sugar that may be produced in Louisiana and Florida combined. Over the opposition of the Senators and Representatives from those States, the quota in the law reads only 420,166 tons. It is generally admitted that Florida produces about 50,000 tons, so that would mean 370,166 tons for Louisiana. By a peculiar

THE
# SUGAR BULLETIN

407 Carondelet St., New Orleans

Reginald Dykers, Editor

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**coincidence the July 12th report of the Administration's Bureau of Agricultural Economics declares, in the face of universal opinion here to the contrary, that Louisiana's sugar production this year will exceed 370,166 tons by only a negligible figure. The law is about to go on the floor of Congress for debate and the report will make it more difficult for a quota to be secured that will adequately cover what we all believe will be Louisiana's real 1937 production. It will give Congressmen and Senators a misleading conception of the amount of sugar Louisiana is going to produce. The report appears most opportunely to accomplish this.**

**Since the report appeared we have queried the County Agents (who are quasi-government officials) in all the Louisiana Sugar Parishes, asking each of them how the acreage in sugar cane in his Parish in 1937 compares with the acreage in 1936, and what he estimates the tonnage harvested in 1937 will be as compared with the tonnage harvested in 1936. Up to the time of going to press replies have been received from the County Agents in 14 of the 19 Parishes considered as Sugar Parishes, namely from Iberville, Lafayette, Ascension, St. Mary, St. James, Assumption, Vermilion, Lafourche, Terrebonne, Pointe Coupee, St. John, West Baton Rouge, Avoyelles and St. Landry. These reports, summarized, give a total sugar cane acreage in the Parishes named of 236,404 acres in 1937 as compared with 204,131 acres in 1936 and an expected tonnage harvest of 4,737,694 tons in 1937 as compared with 4,068,596 tons harvested in 1936. The increase in acreage reported is 15.8 per cent, and the expected tonnage at harvest this year is given at 16.4 per cent over 1936. How all that cane can produce less sugar in 1937 than was produced in 1936 is difficult to see, except by figuring on the occurrence of some calamity, which no crop reporter has any ethical right to do.**

**The statisticians of the Government who have perpetrated this joke on the Louisiana sugar producers may find it amusing, but considering the moment at which it was sprung, there is something too Machiavellian about it to appeal to the sense of fair play possessed by the average citizen.**

## Sugar Bill Snagged In the House

*(By C. J. Bourg)*

The elimination of the Supreme Court Bill as a controversial factor in prolonging the Session of Congress, has cleared the way for action on the Sugar Bill, among other measures before Congress. At the present time the final legislative program for action at this Session of Congress has not been revealed, but Senator Borah of Idaho appealed to the Democratic leaders of the Senate to include the Sugar Bill among those measures which are to receive consideration.

Senator Borah had this to say on the floor of the Senate:

"Let me suggest to the Senator from Kentucky that it is, in my opinion, within the power of the administration to see that that legislation is enacted. There is no opposition to it upon the part of the producers or those most interested. They are satisfied with the measure proposed in the message of the President, and there is no opposition in Congress. The opposition comes from sources over which the administration is supposed to have some influence."

Senator Harrison arose to reply and the following colloquy resulted:

"Mr. Harrison. The Finance Committee of the Senate has taken no steps with reference to sugar legislation, because a tax feature is involved. I may say to the Senator, as I have already advised others who are not interested in sugar legislation—and I know of nothing that is more important to the sugar producers both in the West and in Louisiana and in Florida—that just as soon as the House of Representatives shall have passed legislation on this subject, the Committee on Finance will begin hearings, or will have no hearings unless they are demanded, and will expedite the measure in every possible way, and report it to the Senate, and try to have it enacted into law. I may say further that it seems to me that if the House should fail

to act, a joint resolution ought to be passed extending the law for at least 1 year, so that it will be one of the first matters to be taken up at the next session of Congress."

"Mr. Borah. I greatly appreciate what the Senator has to say. I shall rely on his statement."

"Mr. Barkley. Mr. President, will the Senator yield further?"

"Mr. Borah. I yield."

"Mr. Barkley. The Senator realizes how impossible it is for the Senate to have a program with reference to a bill that must originate in the House of Representatives, and that has not as yet passed that body, but I have today talked with Members of this body as well as the other with reference to the matter. I am in sympathy with the desire to secure action upon it, and I am very hopeful that an accommodation may be arrived at which will result in action on that proposed legislation before we shall adjourn.

"Mr. Borah. Mr. President, of course, the Senate itself cannot outline a program where the House is concerned, but I assume that in making up a program the leaders of the House will be in consultation with the leaders of the Senate. I assume both Houses will seek to reach an agreement on a program on the bills to be considered. I earnestly urge that sugar legislation be included."

In the meantime the situation in the House has not changed because the Secretary of Interior has been issuing statements seeking to make the status of Hawaii and Puerto Rico the major consideration in the Sugar Bill. It has been little short of amazing to have a Cabinet Officer place so much importance on the right of Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands to bring in their sugar in refined form, when it is considered that there are only about three corporations in Puerto Rico and a few corporations in Hawaii that have any interest in refined sugar. In fact, the Secretary has not explained why over a period of more than half a century, neither Hawaii nor Puerto Rico has built up a refined industry, although during all that time they have been bringing sugar into the United States in great quantities and there has been no restriction on refined sugar. For anyone to claim that it is a discrimination against Hawaiians or Puerto Ricans to include this regulation on refined sugar, among the many other more drastic control regulations of the Sugar Bill, is to say the least a gross exaggeration. The thousands of Puerto Ricans who are interested in the sugar industry and who will benefit materially from a sugar quota system and the payment to be made to growers, would get no benefit whatsoever if every pound of sugar brought in from Puerto Rico would be in refined form. It would only be three or four capitalists, all of whom do not live in Puerto Rico, who would benefit. In the case of Hawaii, it is well-known that the Hawaiian corporations own the California & Hawaiian Refining Corporation which is located in California and which refines only sugar from Hawaii, all of which profits go to the big millionaire corporations of Hawaii. It has been difficult for those of us who have passed through all of the sugar negotiations since 1933, to understand the transformation of Hawaii, because they have been perfectly willing and agreeable to the restriction of their refined sugar, as shown by their signature on the Sugar Stabilization Agreement in 1933, and by the testimony of Hawaiian representatives in 1934 at the Hearings on the Jones-Costigan Bill. Furthermore, the bills first presented at this Session of Congress contain the same restrictions on all off-shore refined sugar, even though the proponents of the bills have admitted that they were prepared in the Department of Agriculture. Somewhere, somehow, somebody has had a sudden change of heart and the sugarcane and sugar beet growers of the United States will become the victims, unless Congress decides to perform its legislative function and to adopt the measure unanimously reported by the House Committee on Agriculture.

# 1934-1935 Production Adjustment Contracts

*(By C. J. Bourg)*

In view of the many requests being received by the various Members of the Louisiana Congressional Delegation and by the Washington Office of the American Sugar Cane League, the information concerning the final disposition of the Production Adjustment Contracts covering the 1934 and 1935 crops of sugarcane contained in a letter received by Senator Allen J. Ellender from the Acting Secretary of Agriculture will undoubtedly be of considerable interest.

Since the letter is an official declaration of policy, we desire to emphasize the point that all claims for refunds are restricted to cases where there is prima facie evidence of non-cooperation on the part of the farmers, or where there is evident error either on the part of the farmers or the local authorities or in Washington.

With regard to the farmer who planted more acreage than was necessary to produce his base production and who was also overproduced, the position of the Department of Agriculture is just to the farmer, and fair to the thousands of other sugarcane growers who reduced their acreage in order to comply. It would certainly be unfair to the co-operating farmers and would destroy the willingness or self-justification of any farmer to co-operate with the Government program if those who deliberately went ahead and planted more acreage than they were supposed to for the 1935 crop, were permitted to profit by such failure to cooperate with the program. A great many of our farmers reduced their acreage by as much as 30% at the time of planting in 1934.

It is also noted that the Acting Secretary of Agriculture declared that the contracts on which the penalties amounted to more than the balance due, will not be the subject of refund, but the Department of Agriculture has marked these cases "closed".

Incidentally the Department is presently engaged in cleaning up all of the contracts which have been the subject of some controversy, with a view to having all of the claims settled one way or the other prior to the inauguration of any new sugar program.

The letter referred to is as follows:

Washington, D. C., July 20, 1937

Hon. Allen J. Ellender
United States Senate
Dear Senator Ellender:

Reference is made to your letter of June 29, 1937, in which you ask for information regarding refunds in connection with the former Sugarcane Production Adjustment Contracts for the 1934 and 1935 crops.

The records of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration show that requests for refunds of payments to Louisiana sugarcane producers who signed Sugarcane Pro-

duction Adjustment Contracts can be classified under three general groups.

1. In the first group are contracts with producers who had an acreage, based upon yields of sugarcane per acre for the years 1932, 1933 and 1934, in excess of the acreage required to produce their base production, and who actually produced and delivered to sugar factories sugarcane in excess of 120% of their base production.
2. Under the second group are contracts on which the advance 1934 payment, which was made on the base production or estimated production, exceeded the total amount of all payments due under the contract.
3. The third group consists of contracts that were overpaid due to errors that were made in computation either in the field or in the Washingon Office.

Producers whose 1935 acreage of sugarcane, based upon yields per acre for the years 1932, 1933 and 1934, was not in excess of the acreage required to produce their base production but who actually produced and delivered in excess of 120% of their base production, are not being asked to refund the amount by which the penalties exceed the final 1935 payment. The contracts in such cases are being marked in the accounts of the Department of Agriculture as closed cases.

We trust that this information will be sufficient to permit you to answer the questions asked by the producers of sugarcane in the state of Louisiana.

Sincerely yours,
M. L. Wilson,
Acting Secretary.

# Sugarcane Report to Contact Committee

*Delivered by Dr. C. W. Edgerton of the Department of Plant Pathology of the Louisiana Experiment Station, June* 18, 1937, *at Baton Rouge, La.*

Rogueing as a control measure for the mosaic disease of sugarcane has been practiced in various sugar-producing countries, sometimes successfully and other times not. The idea, of course, in rogueing is to destroy the infected plants so that the disease will not spread from them to healthy plants. In general, rogueing has been the most successful in those countries where the mosaic disease spreads slowly and where the percentage of mosaic in the fields is relative low.

In Louisiana, the mosaic disease spreads extremely rapidly and, as would be expected, the control of the disease in very susceptible varieties by rogueing is difficult. Attempts in the past to control the disease in this way have not been successful enough to warrant the Experiment Station to recommend generally the control of the disease by rogueing. This does not mean, however, that rogueing should be entirely eliminated from consideration in Louisiana.

It is evident that success in controlling mosaic by rogueing may be influenced by several factors. Of these, the following should be considered: (1) susceptibility of a variety to infection; (2) the ability of a variety to throw off the disease; (3) growth conditions favorable for spread of the disease; and (4) isolation of the fields which are being rogued.

*Susceptibility of varieties to infection.* Varieties vary considerably in regard to the ease with which they become infected with the mosaic disease. Some varieties become infected very easily and the disease spreads rapidly in them. Other varieties become infected less readily and the *pick-up* of the disease in a field during the growing season is relatively slow. Varieties like Co. 281 and P.O.J. 213 are very susceptible to infection and it is not unusual to see the mosaic percentage increase from almost zero to sixty per cent. or more in these varieties during a single growing season. The spread of the disease in Co. 290 is somewhat slower than in Co. 281 but still it is relatively fast when compared to some of the resistant varieties. The varieties C.P. 28-11 and C.P. 28-19 are resistant to infection and the spread of the mosaic in these varieties during the growing season is relatively slow. It is quite evident that rogueing would be much less efficient with the varieties susceptible to infection than with those which are resistant.

*Recovery from mosaic.* Certain varieties after they become infected with the mosaic disease remain infected, while others recover or throw off the disease. The varieties Co. 281, Co. 290, and C.P. 28-11 do not recover from the disease readily in contrast to C.P. 28-19 and C.P. 29-320, which show a high rate of recovery. This factor should be considered in rogueing work.

*Conditions favorable for spread of mosaic.* It is recognized that mosaic does not spread as rapidly in some areas as in others. Certain areas in the Avoyelles region and also in the Lower Coast region have invariably showed less mosaic than areas in the rest of the Sugar Belt. Also mosaic ordinarily spreads less rapidly on stubble cane than on plant cane and in cane growing in soils which are not the best adapted to cane growth. The rate of spread on black soils is usually less than on the lighter soils. It is evident that rogueing would be more effective in areas where the rate of spread is slow.

(Continued on page 6)

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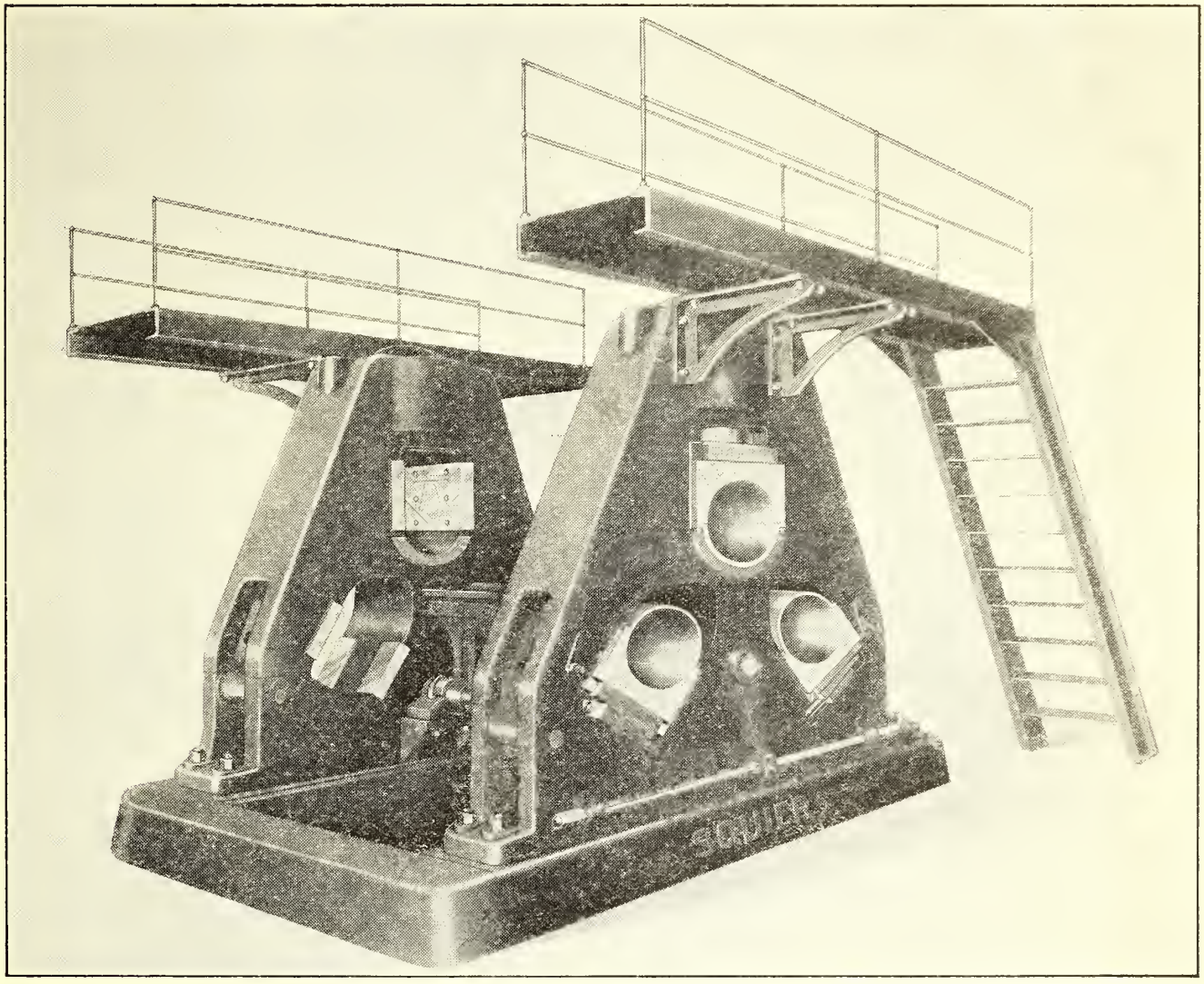

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*Isolation.* In Louisiana, especially with the susceptible varieties, all rogueing work should be in plots or fields isolated from infected cane.

*Varietal resistance to mosaic infection.* Work at Baton Rouge during the past few years has given us considerable information regarding the mosaic reaction of the commercial cane varieties. Results obtained in plots planted with mosaic-infected and mosaic-free seed cane may be used for illustration.

Percentage of mosaic-infected plants in plots planted with mosaic-infected and mosaic-free seed cane at Baton Rouge.

| Variety | Percentage mosaic June 11, 1936 in plats planted with Mosaic-free seed cane | Mosaic-infected seed cane | Percentage mosaic Sept. 12, 1936 in plats planted with Mosaic-free seed cane | Mosaic-infected seed cane |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Co. 281 Mixed soil | 9.5 | 87.8 | 14.0 | 100.0 |
| Co. 281 Heavy soil | 2.4 | 99.2 | ---- | ---- |
| Co. 290 | 0.4 | 99.8 | 10.2 | 99.9 |
| C. P. 29-291 | 8.6 | 91.5 | ---- | ---- |
| C. P. 28-11 | ---- | ---- | 0.1 | 99.9 |
| C. P. 28-19 | 0.0 | 50.9 | 0.0 | 21.8 |
| C. P. 29-320 | 0.0 | 40.9 | 0.0 | 2.0 |

A study of the above table will show that the varieties fall into three groups.

1. *Those varieties which become infected readily and do not throw off the disease after becoming infected.* Such varieties show the most unsatisfactory behavior towards mosaic. In this group are found the varieties Co. 281, Co. 290, and C.P. 29-291. It should be noted that Co. 290 does not become infected as easily as Co. 281. The seedling C.P. 29-291, although a very desirable cane in many respects, will probably never be released, for no other reason than that it falls into this group. Rogueing will be the most difficult with varieties in this group, yet rogueing will pay better dividends with these varieties if successful.

2. *Those varieties which do not become infected readily but do not throw off the disease after becoming infected.* The mosaic could probably be controlled very readily in such varieties by rogueing.

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In this group, the variety C.P. 28-11 should probably be placed.

3. *Those varieties which do not become infected readily and also readily* throw off the disease after becoming infected. Varieties in this group show the most satisfactory behavior towards mosaic. Rogueing should control the disease readily in these varieties and probably even this would not be necessary. In this group are found the, at present, very valuable varieties C.P. 28-19 and C.P. 29-320.

*Work in Progress at the Experiment Station.* Work in rogueing cane is at present being conducted by M. L. Shaffer who had a fellowship in the University during the school year of 1936-1937. He has furnished an outline of the work he has in progress.

## League Offers Recommendation

*Washington, D. C.,*
*June 15, 1937.*

*To the Joint Preparatory Committee on Philippine Affairs,*
*206 United States Tariff Commission,*
*8th and E Streets,*
*Washington, D. C.*

The American Sugar Cane League, representing the sugarcane growers and sugar producers of Louisiana, hereby declares its interest and concern in the study and recommendations of your Committee with regard to the future trade relations between the United States and the Philippine Commonwealth. Since the American Sugar Cane League is not informed in any detail as to the program or proposals for future trade relations between the United States and the Philippine Commonwealth, we are not fully prepared at this time to offer more than a general statement, very briefly outlining the points of chief concern to us in their relations to the reciprocal trade agreement in contemplation.

According to the joint statement of President Quezon and Mr. Sayre, Chairman of the Inter-departmental Committee on Philippine Affairs, issued March 18, 1937, the proposed reciprocal trade agreement will be on a non-preferential basis. It is our position and recommendation that when complete independence is achieved by the Philippines on or before July 4, 1946, the tariff against Philippine goods entering the United States shall be on the basis of the full duty or world rate without preference.

We know of no reason for any change in the Philippine Independence Act and certainly oppose any increase in the amount of sugar which can be brought into the United States, free of tariff duty, during the transition period which will be completed when independence becomes effective. However, we do not oppose the suggestion of President Quezon that the date of independence be advanced to 1938 or 1939, provided the tonnage of quota sugar after independence shall be no more than the tonnage specified in the Philippine Independence Act.

We have advocated and do now advocate that all beet and cane Sugar consumed in the United States should be refined in the United States for the protection of our industries and labor employed, and consistent with this position, we suggest that there should be no improvement in the status of the Philippines with regard to refined sugar.

We now formally request the privilege of introducing oral testimony at the public hearing should the necessity arise, and of presenting a brief on or before the delays determined in accordance with the public notices of your Committee, have expired at noon of July 10th, 1937.

Respectfully submitted,
AMERICAN SUGAR CANE LEAGUE,
By C. J. Bourg, Vice-President.


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We stand for the encouragement of Home Industries as against Foreign Competition.

Vol. 15 NEW ORLEANS, LA., AUGUST 15, 1937 No. 22

# The Sugar Bill Progresses

*(By C. J. Bourg)*

### In the House

The passage of the Jones Sugar Bill in the House of Representatives was a complete approval of the actions of the House Committee on Agriculture, since none but Committee amendments were adopted. On the final vote, the result was 165 to 55 which by an encouraging coincidence indicates that three-fourths of the Members of Congress voting were in favor of the Bill. There was no roll-call vote, but the lines were well-drawn and those who sat in the gallery of the House were able to see how each Member voted when the division of the vote was called for and tallied.

The Louisiana Congressional Delegation which has acted unitedly and successfully in handling the case for the Louisiana sugar industry, deserves full credit for the favorable provisions of the Bill as they are to be applied to Louisiana. It is quite impossible for anyone who has not been in Washington during the past several weeks to appreciate the intensity of the fight that has been going on behind the scenes, involving the House Leaders, Members of the Agriculture Committee, the Congressmen and Senators from sugar-producing states, three Members of the Cabinet and even the President. It has been a long drawn-out battle and the Bill as it passed the House represents a series of compromises.

The record has been kept very clear that Louisiana still insists upon unlimited production of sugar, as long as we are not able to supply the home market of the United States. But it is generally recognized among the Members of Congress that the final provision of 420,000 tons for the continental cane area is a big victory for the Louisiana Congressional Delegation.

It is appropriate to repeat that Chairman Marvin Jones has certainly redeemed his pledges made at the last Session of Congress when he assured Louisiana and Florida Congressmen that our problem should be considered on a more liberal basis. Admitting that 420,000 tons does not represent the production in 1936 or the prospects of production in 1937, nevertheless it must be remembered that it does represent a clear increase of 160,000 tons for the continental cane area in a Bill which does not provide increases for any other area, but on the contrary changes the participation of the various areas in such manner as to actually reduce the total final quota of some areas. In addition the Bill is for a limited period of three years, which means that Congress must again consider the legislation two years from now, at which time the quotas will probably be assigned on the basis of production records which will include the crops of 1937, 1938 and 1939.

For purposes of appreciation, recognition and acclaim the Honor Roll of the Louisiana Delegation in the House of Representatives is listed in full and by seniority:

Hon. Rene L. DeRouen
Hon. Joachim O. Fernandez
Hon. Paul H. Maloney
Hon. A. Leonard Allen
Hon. Overton Brooks
Hon. John K. Griffith
Hon. Newt V. Mills
Hon. Robert L. Mouton

All of these gentlemen performed their parts wholeheartedly and willingly, and they are each one entitled to praise and gratitude. However, it is in keeping with the facts that special mention should be made of the continuous activity and thorough-going leadership furnished by Mr. DeRouen as Dean of the House Delegation. Although he does not have a single sugar factory in his District, he took the broad statesmanlike view that the Louisiana sugar industry is a major factor in the welfare and prosperity of the whole State of Louisiana. In like manner it should be emphasized that Mr. Maloney contributed unreservedly to the success of our cause by his advice and judgment based upon years of experience in legislative affairs and a personal knowledge of the industry. Naturally, Mr. Mouton and Dr. Griffith showed a complete appreciation of the fact that their Districts had the most at stake since the major part of the sugar industry is contained therein. They were constantly vigilant and entirely helpful in protecting the interests of the Louisiana sugarcane growers and sugar producers. We repeat that the Delegation as

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407 Carondelet St., New Orleans

Reginald Dykers, Editor

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The American Cane Growers' Assn.
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a whole is entitled to full recognition as a unit because all of the efforts were coordinated and therefore made more effective.

### In the Senate

As a demonstration of the willingness of the Senators to help the industry to secure sugar legislation at this Session, a Hearing was called by the Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, Senator Pat Harrison, the day following the vote in the House.

The case for Louisiana was very completely presented to the Finance Committee by Senator Overton and Senator Ellender, who spoke directly to the issues that are involved for the consideration of the Senate. Senator Overton directed attention to the fact that he had twice introduced bills providing for unrestricted production of sugar in continental United States and that he had finally yielded to the policy of the Administration placing quotas on these domestic areas, but stressed that the last Overton Bill had provided for a continental quota whereby there would be no restriction until the continental areas had produced 1/3 of the consumption requirements of the United States. He discussed the efforts of Florida to secure a separate quota, or to have a certain amount of the cane quota earmarked. He pointed out that under the Jones-Costigan Act, the quotas were allocated on the basis of past performance and ability to produce, and the Jones Bill carries the same provisions. Accordingly he told the Committee that this matter was one of administration and that the formula for the continental cane area would naturally have to be the same as the formula for the continental beet area. There are no State quotas in the beet area and there should be none in the cane area.

Furthermore, Senator Overton recited in detail the past production records of both States showing a high production for Louisiana of 415,000 short tons raw value, as against a high production in Florida of 51,000 short tons raw value. In addition he pointed out that Louisiana has idle mills capable of being operated and sugarcane lands capable of being restored to sugar cane production. He placed in the record the facts which demonstrate that the production of sugarcane in 1936 was below the sugarcane production of 1911; that the acreage in sugarcane in 1936 was below the acreage records of several other years; that the sugar production in 1936 was less than had been produced in at least two different years and that the number of mills in operation in 1936 was not as great as existing capacity or past performance. He was thus able to make evident to the Committee that Louisiana was not seeking expansion, but a complete restoration to its former status and activity. He declared that even though the quota provided for the continental cane area was inadequate he was willing to support the Jones Bill because "we are not now confronted with a theory but with a condition". He stated that the growers of Louisiana desire legislation and he felt that there were sufficient benefits contained in the Bill to justify his going along, when it is considered that the Bill is temporary and will again be considered by Congress in the relatively near future.

Senator Overton mentioned the projects of the Resettlement Administration which have added over 15,000 acres to sugarcane cultivation in Louisiana in 1937 and the report that this Resettlement acreage will be doubled for the 1938 crop, which would have to be considered by the Secretary of Agriculture in connection with the quota.

Finally the Senator stated "but if you take the entire historical background, I think Louisiana has a better claim for an increase in quota than any other continental area".

Senator Ellender laid particular emphasis on the introduction of new varieties in Louisiana in recent years, explaining that the increase in production has been due in very much greater proportion to better varieties of cane than to increased acreage. He pointed out the increases in yield of sugarcane per acre from 15 to 21 tons on the average and the increases in extraction of sugar per ton of cane from below 150 lbs. to 167 lbs. He presented the facts showing the transition from the old varieties of cane to the P.O.J. varieties and later to the varieties offered by the Department of Agriculture and also by the State Experimental Station. Senator Ellender declared: "So far as Louisiana is concerned Senator Overton and I have been working on this Bill for quite a while and we have resolved to accept the Bill as written and permit the distribution as between Louisiana and Florida to be made by the Department of Agriculture as in the past."

Your Washington representative testified to the willingness of the Louisiana sugar industry to accept the Jones Bill as a compromise, but suggested that if amendments were to be considered by the Committee, the following should be given consideration:

**One**

An adequate quota for the continental cane area, representing at least its current production.

The Committee decided not to change any of the basic quota provisions of the Bill.

**Two**

The yardstick for price control of sugar should not be the possible profit or loss of five principal crops, but should be the average price of foods.

The Committee decided to strike out the five principal crop yardstick and to insert in lieu thereof a provision that the price of sugar shall not be so reduced that the relationship between the price of sugar and the price of other foods will become less than the relationship that existed in the period 1932-33-34. The effect of this is that the price control power can not at this time be used to lower the price of sugar, but the Secretary must wait until the price of sugar would increase about 12% more than it is at the present time, generally speaking.

**Three**

The individual allotments to farmers should be made in terms of acreage.

The Committee decided to leave that matter to the discretion of the Secretary of Agriculture, so that no question of discrimination could be raised, but the Secretary can give allotments to Louisiana growers in terms of acreage, under the Bill.

**Four**

The benefit payments should be made on the basis of the final quota.

The Committee again decided that the powers granted to the Secretary of Agriculture permit him to include the basic quota, the normal inventory of sugar and the requirements necessary to furnish increases in consumption, when determining the total production of which each grower is to receive his proportionate share.

**Five**

There should be no tax on black-strap molasses.

The Committee voted to strike out this tax.

**Six**

There should be an abatement of the tax on unsold sugars at the time of the termination of the tax so that the direct consumption sugar producers would be on an equal competitive basis with refiners who buy raw sugar.

The Committee evidently felt that because the tax period will end in June, 1941, there will be relatively small quantities of continental sugar left on hand, which would not have been the case if the original provision terminating the tax in December, 1940, had remained in the Bill.

**Seven**

Since the Sugar Quota Regulations were continued in effect by specific mention, it was suggested that the Sirup Quota Regulations should be likewise continued in effect so that there would be no lapse.

The proposals to provide a separate quota for Florida were rejected by the House and by the Senate Committees.

At this writing there is prospect of immediate consideration of the Sugar Bill in the Senate, now that the Bill has been favorably and unanimously reported by the Senate Committee on Finance.

## FLASH!

Washington, D. C., August 13, 1937.

Senate took up Jones Bill H. R. 7667 and adopted practically without debate the amendments recommended by Senate Finance Committee on refined sugar restrictions and on price control yardstick and on striking out blackstrap molasses tax. Two amendments offered by Florida Senators were defeated but Senator Pepper entered into prolonged speech with intention of offering another amendment establishing State quota for Florida with progressive yearly increases by freezing Louisiana at 357,000 tons and beet area at 1,550,000 tons. Protracted debate is not expected and final passage is expected today.

C. J. BOURG.

# Progress Report In Rogueing

*Made by M. L. Shaffer at the Meeting of the Contact Committee of the American Sugar Cane League Held June 18th, 1937*

The work which is reported on in this paper consists first in the study of the spread of mosaic disease under field conditions in Louisiana up to the present time in the 1937 crop and data on the amount of rogueing which has been necessary to do to keep fields of canes planted in several varieties as free as possible from mosaic for the purpose of insuring plantations of healthy seed stock of these valuable canes.

The work on this paper must be considered as a progress report and the final outcome will not be known until the end of the growing season.

Table No. 1 consists of plots planted with healthy cane. The seed for most of these plots was rogued for one year and was practically free of disease when planted. The plots of Co. 290 at Gayosa, Waterproof, and Southdown and the Co. 281 at Meeker were planted with seed that had not been rogued the year previous but selected carefully from field run cane which was practically free of disease when planted.

(Continued on next page)

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Table 1. Spread of Mosaic Disease Under Field Conditions in Louisiana in 1937.

| Locality | Variety | Per cent mosaic in selected cane | | | Per cent mosaic in adjoining field run cane | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 4-25-37 | 5-16-37 | 6-8-37 | 4-25-37 | 5-16-37 | 6-8-37 |
| Gayosa | 290 | 1.0 | 2.0 | 2.5 | 69.1 | 76.0 | 87.6 |
| South Coast | 290 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 61.0 | 83.2 | 93.1 |
| Presquille | 281 | 7.4 | 2.9 | 5.3 | 61.9 | 84.0 | 75.5 |
| South Coast | 281 | 4.9 | 6.8 | 8.1 | 57.1 | 68.4 | 79.1 |
| Ranch | 281 | 1.1 | 2.6 | 9.0 | 55.1 | 90.0 | 84.7 |
| South Coast | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| Woodlawn | --- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| South Coast | 281 | 0 | 1.6 | 6.9 | 54.6 | 97.2 | 95.4 |
| Water Proof | 290 | 4.9 | 1.0 | 3.9 | 99.3 | 97.6 | 94.3 |
| Realty Operators | 281 | 3.7 | 5.1 | 13.0 | 90.5 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Southdown | 290 | 3.4 | .88 | 1.5 | 53.3 | 85.7 | 73.9 |
| Realty Operators | 281 | 1.4 | 2.8 | 5.5 | 67.1 | 95.7 | 96.6 |
| Ardoyne | --- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| Shaffer | 281 | 2.8 | 3.7 | 10.9 | 95.0 | 99.2 | 100.0 |
| Meeker | --- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| Meeker Syrup Co. | 281 | ---- | 1.4 | 11.0 | ---- | 94.8 | 97.9 |

The method used was to plant one or two rows in the middle of a cut of regular field run cane of the same variety. This test was for the purpose of determining how rapid would be the spread of mosaic disease when planted in the midst of mosaic cane. No rogueing was done.

During the first reading three to four 50 foot sections were staked out in the selected cane so that accurate counts could be made each month. The mosaic stools were tagged with permanent tags and at each reading the newly developed mosaic stools were tagged. The adjacent field run cane was not staked off at all but the readings were made at random in the field. This will account for some of the variations in the figures of the regular field run cane. In the selected cane when there was decrease in percentage of mosaic it was due to the increase in the number of total stools.

It is worthy of note that in the middle of June the selected and previously rogued cane runs very low in mosaic as compared to the regular field run cane. This is doubtless of great advantage, for during the early growing period when the cane is suckering and making a root system it is very healthy. It has been indicated through many experiments that the secondary spread of mosaic disease coming so late in the season does not have a very serious effect on the growth and the development of cane.

Explanation of the six plots in Table No. 2 is as follows:

*Caldwell Sugars*: 1. Co. 281 seed secured from Bunkie. This seed had been rogued by the Realty Operators and when it was cut in October for planting ran approximately one-half to one per cent. mosaic.

2. Co. 290 rogued in October down to approximately one per cent. mosaic.

3. C.P. 28-19 not rogued. Planted regular field run.

4. C.P. 29-320 not rogued. Planted regular field run.

(This plot is well isolated, in new land close to the woods. No cane is within a half-mile of it except some C.P. 28-19).

*Alma Plantation*: 1. Co. 281 seed secured from Rosewood Plantation near Bunkie. This cane had been rogued for three years and when it was planted ran approximately 1.5 per cent. mosaic.

2. Co. 290 first stubble rogued in October down to approximately one per cent mosaic.

3. C.P. 28-19 not rogued. Planted regular field run.

4. C.P. 29-320 not rogued. Planted regular field run.

(This plot is very well isolated being on a ridge completely surrounded with woods with no cane within one-half mile. However, this spring some corn was planted close to it).

*McCollam Brothers*: 1. Co. 281 seed secured from Delta Farms. It was not rogued but planted with approximately two per cent mosaic.

2. Co. 290 rogued in September on Ellendale.

Table 2. Spread of Mosaic in Rogued Plots in Louisiana in 1937.

| Location | Dates Rogued | | | Variety | Approx. No. of acres | No. of Stools Rogued | | | | Per Cent mosaic at each rogueing | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Caldwell Sugars | 4/23 | 6/1 | 6/10 | 281 | 5.00 | 72 | 338 | 194 | ------- | .38 | .91 | .51 | ------- |
| | " | " | " | 290 | 5.00 | 134 | 320 | 204 | ------- | .45 | .56 | .34 | ------- |
| Thibodaux, La. | " | " | " | 28-19 | 5.00 | 0 | 13 | 4 | ------- | 0 | .03 | .009 | ------- |
| | " | " | " | 29-116 | 1.00 | ------- | 0 | 0 | ------- | 0 | 0 | 0 | ------- |
| Alma | 4/28 | 5/26 | 6/15 | 281 | 7.00 | 1,619 | 312 | 802 | ------- | 4.2 | .71 | .15 | ------- |
| | " | " | " | 290 | 5.00 | 333 | 349 | 363 | ------- | .91 | .68 | .66 | ------- |
| Lakeland, La. | " | " | " | 28-19 | 5.00 | 4 | 2 | 0 | ------- | .009 | .004 | .00 | ------- |
| | " | " | " | 29-320 | .50 | 29 | 13 | 10 | ------- | .7 | .3 | .15 | ------- |
| McCollum Bros. | 4/24 | 6/4 | 6/11 | 281 | 5.00 | 450 | 260 | 77 | ------- | 2.3 | .85 | .23 | ------- |
| | " | " | " | 290 | 5.00 | 1,782 | 1,092 | 232 | ------- | 3.7 | 1.7 | .33 | ------- |
| Houma, La. | " | " | " | 29-116 | .75 | 2 | 5 | 0 | ------- | .02 | .04 | 0 | ------- |
| | " | " | " | 28-19 | 5.00 | ------- | 6 | 0 | ------- | ------- | .014 | 0 | ------- |
| Ardoyne | 4/26 | | 6/9 | 281 | 5.00 | 3,092 | 2,283 | ------- | ------- | 9.4 | ------- | 5.4 | ------- |
| Ellendale, La. | 5/15 | | 6/9 | 290 | 3.00 | 2,599 | ------- | ------- | ------- | 4.4 | ------- | 1.3 | ------- |
| | | | " | 29-320 | .25 | ------- | 23 | ------- | ------- | ------- | ------- | .6 | ------- |
| Experiment Sta. | 4/22 | 5/13 | 5/25 6/16 | 281 | .50 | 8 | 3 | 12 | 100 | .34 | .086 | .3 | 2.3 |
| Baton Rouge, La. | " | " | 5/25 6/16 | 290 | .50 | 6 | 23 | 9 | 27 | .15 | .51 | .14 | .36 |
| O'Brian | -- | 5/14 | 6/14 | 281 | 5.00 | ------- | 1,945 | 2,122 | ------- | ------- | 3.8 | 3.8 | ------- |
| Bunkie, La. | -- | -- | -- | --- | ---- | --- | ------- | ------- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |

When planted ran approximately two per cent. (This seed when it was planted got mixed with some mosaic cane which accounts for considerable mosaic in the first two rogueings).

3. C.P. 28-19 not rogued. Planted regular field run.

4. C.P. 29-116 not rogued. Planted regular field run.

(This plot is fairly well isolated. There is no mosaic cane within a mile of it).

*Ardoyne*: 1. Co. 281 first seed was selected in the summer of 1935 cut of regular field cane which ran approximately 99 per cent mosaic. It was necessary to cover 15 acres in order to obtain enough seed to plant one-fourth of an acre. It was rogued four times in 1936 taking out approximately 65 to 70 per cent. of the total cane. The remaining cane in this plot was planted in October, 1936 and had approximately three per cent. mosaic.

2. Co. 290 rogued the same time as the above Co. 281 and planted in the seed plot with approximately two per cent. mosaic.

(This plot is fairly well isolated, being in new land and close to the woods).

*State Experiment Station*: 1. Co. 281 seed was obtained from cane that had been rogued by the Station for one year. When planted was as healthy as possible having been rogued the last time just before planting.

2. Co. 290 seed was obtained from the Station test fields and was practically free from mosaic.

(This plot is about a quarter of a mile from any cane but it is completely surrounded by corn).

*O'Brian*: 1. Co. 281 seed was selected before it was planted in October from field run cane that had not been previously rogued. An effort was made to mark the diseased stools and to plant only healthy cane. When planted it ran approximately three per cent. mosaic.

### Discussion

Up to June 10 practically all of the disease was due to primary infection. Since that time there has been a great deal of secondary infection. The greatest spread of the disease from previous observations comes from June 25 through July 30 and it is expected that from now to the end of July the spread of secondary infection will be more rapid.

The method used for determination of percentages is the method used by the Experiment Stations and is on the average fairly accurate. A count is kept of the mosaic stools that are rogued out of the cut and then a stand count is made, by counting carefully the number of stools on a given number of representative rows, from which an average stand is computed.


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# Differences Between Simple Ashes and Sulfated Ashes of Sugar Cane Products

*Abstract of paper by C. A. Fort of the Carbohydrate Research Division, Bureau of Chemistry and Soils, presented before the Division of Sugar Chemistry at the ninety-third meeting of the American Chemical Society, Tuesday, April 13, at 4:30 p. m.*

The mineral impurities of sugar products are commonly measured by completely burning away the organic materials, with or without the addition of sulfuric acid, and weighing the residue. If the acid is used the residue is called a sulfated ash and when no acid is added it is a simple ash. There is a difference between the values obtained by these two methods, which for commercial work has been assumed to be 10 per cent. of the sulfated ash, which has the higher value. Other workers have already shown that the actual differences are variable and generally higher than this.

The studies of sugar cane and some of its products in Louisiana have included a comparison of the simple ash and the sulfated ash. It was found that the amount of and proportional difference between the two types of ash varied not only between different products but also in the case of each product individually.

The variation in a particular product was associated with differences in sugar cane variety and the soil, fertilizer, season and other agronomic conditions connected with the growth of the cane. On the average, the proportional difference was smallest for the sugar cane itself was greater in the juices and sirups and highest in the finished sugars.

The variations in the comparison of the simple and sulfated ashes are reflections of the varying composition of the salts present. The amount of the difference in a particular case is principally a rough measure of the organic substances of the original sample which were in chemical combination with the mineral elements. The losses of certain mineral constituents during the burning and the degree of oxidation of the ash also influence the results.

It is incorrect to consider the ash content as an indication of the total salt impurities in a sugar product. The actual salt content may be the same as the ash value or as much as 70 per cent. higher. It would seem that the amount of total salts is a more important factor in judging the purity of sugar products than the mineral portion of the salt obtained by ashing.

While perhaps possible, it is impracticable to determine exactly the true salt content. However, if the general average composition of the organic portion of the salts is known, it is possible to make estimations of the total salts fairly conveniently. For sugar products it is suggested that acetic acid be used as representing the average composition of the organic part of the salts, not because it is normally found in sugar cane products but because its combining weight is approximately the average of the organic acids which have been found in such materials.

A rough approximation of total salts may be made on this basis from the amount of the difference between the carbonated and sulfated ash, this amount of difference being multiplied by 0.6 and the product added to the sulphated ash. A more exact calculation may be made from the true acid-base ratio of the ash. Since the sulfated ash approaches the actual salt content in value and is of more definite composition, it is recommended as the basic value for use in estimating the salts.

# Imports of Molasses Into the United States during the Calendar Years 1934, 1935, 1936

(*U. S. Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce*)

There are given below for purposes of comparison data showing the imports of molasses into the United States by countries for the calendar years 1934-36, inclusive. The table immediately following gives the data in detail for edible molasses for 1936 and indicates the sugar content of molasses imported during this year. It will be noted that more than 95 percent of total imports of edible molasses into the United States for 1936 tested in total sugar content 70 percent and above. Nearly 90 percent of the 1935 total also tested in total sugars 70 percent and above. Less than one-half of the 1934 total contained 70 percent, or above, of sugar.

(Continued on next page)

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| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Cuba: | | | |
| Gallons | 15,458,831 | 9,857,739 | 15,172,779 |
| Value | $ 1,499,458 | $ 922,873 | $ 1,653,715 |
| Barbados: | | | |
| Gallons | 1,468,065 | 1,570,854 | 1,379,252 |
| Value | $ 346,500 | $ 380,966 | $ 319,424 |
| Dominican Republic: | | | |
| Gallons | 685,098 | 966,716 | 830,417 |
| Value | $ 79,648 | $ 48,567 | $ 86,762 |
| Trinidad & Tobago: | | | |
| Gallons | 69,500 | 116,284 | 96,445 |
| Value | $ 6,740 | $ 13,475 | $ 9,343 |
| United Kingdom: | | | |
| Gallons | 15,614 | 14,164 | 32,864 |
| Value | $ 12,556 | $ 9,940 | $ 24,865 |
| Other Countries: | | | |
| Gallons | 172,876 | 117,894 | 113,710 |
| Value | $ 50,945 | $ 81,514 | $ 35,324 |
| TOTAL: | | | |
| Gallons | 17,869,984 | 12,643,651 | 17,625,467 |
| Value | $ 1,995,847 | $ 1,457,335 | $ 2,129,433 |

*1936 figures are preliminary, and subject to later revision.

## Imports of Edible Molasses into the United States Showing Percent of Sugar Content During 1936

| Country: | Testing in Total Sugars, not above | Quantity Gallons | Value Dollars |
|---|---|---|---|
| Total: | | 17,625,467 | $2,129,433 |
| Cuba: | | | |
| | 69 | 408,728 | 42,916 |
| | 70 | 979,672 | 84,804 |
| | 71 | 1,694,569 | 129,513 |
| | 72 | 2,293,683 | 206,600 |
| | 73 | 1,489,607 | 118,747 |
| | 74 | 1,912,236 | 213,700 |
| | 75 | 1,422,636 | 204,396 |
| | 76 | 41,527 | 3,296 |
| | 78 | 4,930,121 | 649,743 |
| Total Cuba: | | 15,172,779 | $1,653,715 |
| Barbados: | | | |
| | 48 | 30 | 10 |
| | 60 | 21,065 | 4,881 |
| | 65 | 122,282 | 21,561 |
| | 66 | 111,326 | 28,121 |
| | 67 | 3,696 | 971 |
| | 68 | 3,117 | 1,035 |
| | 69 | 970,217 | 224,588 |
| | 70 | 42,755 | 11,944 |
| | 71 | 88,174 | 22,717 |
| | 73 | 15,281 | 3,287 |
| | 77 | 307 | 94 |
| | 79 | 462 | 215 |
| Tobal Barbados: | | 1,379,252 | $ 319,424 |
| Dominican Republic: | | | |
| | 48 | 420 | 66 |
| | 73 | 829,997 | 86,696 |
| Total Dominican Republic: | | 830,417 | $ 86,762 |
| Trinidad & Tobago: | | | |
| | 52 | 36,383 | 2,462 |
| | 54 | 13,090 | 888 |
| | 59 | 15,652 | 1,014 |
| | 60 | 2,700 | 432 |
| | 64 | 28,620 | 4,547 |
| Total Trinidad & Tobago: | | 96,445 | $ 9,343 |
| United Kingdom: | | | |
| | 65 | 38 | 24 |
| | 78 | 257 | 169 |
| | 79 | 584 | 397 |
| | 80 | 2,454 | 2,013 |
| | 81 | 28,075 | 21,343 |
| | 82 | 825 | 567 |
| | 83 | 154 | 120 |
| | 84 | 477 | 232 |
| Total United Kingdom: | | 32,864 | $ 24,865 |
| Total of above countries: | | 17,511,757 | $2,094,109 |
| Total from other countries: | | 113,710 | $ 35,324 |

The following figures show United States imports of inedible (Blackstrap) molasses calendar years—1934, 1935, 1936.

| Total Imports: | 1934 | 1935 | 1936 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Gallons | 202,591,000 | 236,877,000 | 235,061,000 |
| Value | $ 6,149,000 | $ 11,055,000 | $ 11,468,000 |

Of the above Cuba, Philippine Islands, Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico and Hawaii contributed as follows:*

| | 1934 | 1935 | 1936 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Cuba: | | | |
| Gallons | 132,549,000 | 176,525,000 | 184,282,000 |
| Value | $ 4,151,000 | $ 8,762,000 | $ 9,229,000 |
| Philippine Islands: | | | |
| Gallons | 21,599,000 | 1,715,000 | |
| Value | $ 290,000 | $ 56,000 | |
| Dominican Republic: | | | |
| Gallons | 16,531,000 | 16,044,000 | 22,133,000 |
| Value | $ 518,000 | $ 674,000 | $ 794,000 |
| Puerto Rico: | | | |
| Pounds | 30,405,134 | 52,728,249 | 25,748,643 |
| Value | $ 1,161,836 | $ 2,581,601 | $ 1,191,694 |
| Hawaii: | | | |
| Pounds | 18,872,887 | 28,569,553 | 21,231,540 |
| Value | $ 404,318 | $ 697,436 | $ 504,026 |
| Country | 1934 | 1935 | 1936* |

*The figures for Puerto Rico and Hawaii include both edible and inedible, but largely inedible.

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Dean, [illegible]
Science [illegible]
Baton Rouge

We stand for the encouragement of Home Industries as against foreign competition.

Vol. 15 NEW ORLEANS, LA., SEPTEMBER 1, 1937 No. 23

# Analysis of the Sugar Act

*(By C. J. Bourg)*

The following article is submitted on the assumption that the President will sign the Bill passed overwhelmingly by Congress.

The Sugar Act of 1937 expresses the intent of Congress regarding the program that is to be applied by the Federal Government with respect to the problems of the sugar industry during the remainder of 1937 and the calendar years of 1938, 1939 and 1940. In a sense, the fact that this Act of Congress is limited to a term of a little more than three years is of overshadowing importance. It means that the policies are not necessarily permanent, but rather to be tested in a second probational period, just as the Jones-Costigan Act may be said to have been an experiment during the first probational period from 1934 to 1937 inclusive. By fixing a definite term of application for the Sugar Act, Congress has practically declared that permanent legislation or the further limited extension of the present Act, must be considered during the Session of Congress which meets in the Spring of 1940.

## Quotas

The quota provisions are naturally of principal interest to the sugarcane growers of Louisiana. During the past three years we have been forced to meet many problems which were chiefly, if not exclusively, due to the one disturbing fact that the quota assigned to Louisiana was entirely inadequate. To a large extent that situation has been greatly improved and considering the limited term of the present Act, it may be said that the quota need not necessarily be restricted.

The quota for the Mainland Cane Sugar Area (which is the new name for the Continental Cane Area) is expressed in terms of percentage. There is a minimum of 3,715,000 short tons established for the domestic sugar-producing Areas, of which the Mainland Cane Area is to receive not less than 11.31%. The domestic sugar-producing Areas are allocated 55.59% of the total sugar consumption in the United States (but not less than 3,715,000 short tons). Thus, the participation of each domestic sugar-producing Area in any increase of consumption requirements in the United States, is fixed on a percentage basis, but if there should be a decrease in consumption there is a limit under which the domestic quotas can not go.

The language of the Act with regard to quotas is as follows:

Sec. 202. Whenever a determination is made, pursuant to section 201, of the amount of sugar needed to meet the requirements of consumers, the Scretary shall establish quotas, or revise existing quotas—

(a) For domestic sugar-producing areas by prorating among such areas 55.59 per centum of such amount of sugar (but not less than 3,715,000 short tons) on the following basis:

| Area | Per centum |
|---|---|
| Domestic beet sugar | 41.72 |
| Mainland cane sugar | 11.31 |
| Hawaii | 25.23 |
| Puerto Rico | 21.48 |
| Virgin Islands | .24 |

(b) For foreign countries, and the Commonwealth of the Philippine Islands, by prorating 44.41 per centum of such amount of sugar (except, if such amount of sugar is less than 6,682,670 short tons, the excess of such amount over 3,715,000 short tons) on the following basis:

| Area | Per centum |
|---|---|
| Commonwealth of the Philippine Islands | 34.70 |
| Cuba | 64.41 |
| Foreign countries other than Cuba | .89 |

In no case shall the quota for the Commonwealth of the Philippine Islands be less than the duty-free quota now established by the provisions of the Philippine Independence Act.

The quota for foreign countries other than Cuba shall be prorated among such countries on the basis of the division of the quota for such countries made in General Sugar Quota Regulations, Series 4, Number 1, issued December 12, 1936, pursuant to the Agricultural Adjustment Act, as amended.

The above set-up for allocating quotas is first discussed so that the matter of chief concern is given

THE
# SUGAR BULLETIN

**407 Carondelet St., New Orleans**

Reginald Dykers, Editor

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the advantage of the first impression. But the Act itself establishes in Section 201 the authority by which the Secretary shall determine for each calendar year the amount of sugar needed to meet the requirements of consumers in the United States; such determination to be made in December of each year for the succeeding calendar year, based upon the quantity of direct-consumption sugar distributed for consumption during the twelve-month period ending October 31st next preceding. The Secretary is also allowed to make adjustments at other times during the calendar year as he may deem necessary to meet the consumption requirements. The Secretary is directed to consider also, when fixing the initial quotas for any calendar year, the deficiency or surplus in inventories of sugar, and any changes in consumption as computed from statistics with respect to inventories of sugar, population and demand conditions. Thus, it may be seen that the power of the Secretary is very broad and that the full responsibility is upon him in the use of the discretionary power given him.

### Price and Consumer

Then follows the provision which has given the greatest alarm and caused the most discussion in sugar circles. It will be remembered that the President suggested that the price of sugar should not be excessive to consumers, although he suggested that the production of sugar beets and sugarcane should be as profitable as other principal agricultural crops. It was the recommendation of the Department of Agriculture that a definite yardstick should be included in the law and the yardstick suggested was the profits made by farmers on the production of the five principal agricultural crops. This yardstick was never explained or understood, and the fear was expressed by informed representatives of sugar beet and sugarcane growers that in view of the available statistics showing that the five principal crops were unprofitable in the last ten years on which statistics are available, this yardstick might prove disastrous. It is of no moment to enter into any prolonged discussion of the different suggested yardsticks that were offered, but it suffices to state that the Conference Committee on the disagreeing votes between the House and the Senate, adopted the following amendment, in lieu of all other "consumer amendments" proposed:

> "and in order that the regulation of commerce provided for under this Act shall not result in excessive prices to consumers, the Secretary may make such additional allowances as he may deem necessary in the amount of sugar determined to be needed to meet the requirements of consumers, so that the supply of sugar made available under this Act shall not result in average prices to consumers in excess of those necessary to maintain the domestic sugar industry as a whole, and the amounts of such additional allowances shall be such that in no event will the amount of the total supply be less than the quantity of sugar required to give consumers of sugar in the continental United States a per capita consumption equal to that of the average of the two year period 1935-1936"

Attention is directed to the all-important fact that this additional power is made entirely discretionary with the Secretary of Agriculture. For purposes of emphasis we quote the very plain language which says "the Secretary *may* make such additional allowances as he *may deem* necessary." Further on we find a proviso which directs that in the use of the above discretionary power the Secretary must be guided in determining whether prices are "excessive", by first ascertaning what average prices are "necessary to maintain the domestic sugar industry as a whole." This is a definite guarantee that is subject only to the determination of what "maintain" means, as it is used in the present instance. Finally, because the powers granted are discretionary, we express confidence that the Secretary will consult with the persons affected and give due consideration to the facts and recommendations offered, or the appeals made by the domestic sugar industry.

### Consumption Increases and Deficits

Since the participation of the Mainland Cane Sugar Area, composed of Louisiana and Florida, is determined exclusively on the basis of the 11.31 percentage with regard to quotas established and increases to meet higher consumption requirements, it follows that the same relative proportion will be maintained whenever one Area has a deficit which has to be reallocated to the other Areas. These provisions of the law are considerably different from those contained in the Jones-Costigan Act. The present law provides that all domestic sugar-producing Areas and Cuba participate in the deficit of any one of these Areas. Thus, since we know there is a deficit in the Beet Sugar Area for 1937 and there probably will be another deficit in 1938, as we interpret the language, this deficit will be re-allocated to the other domestic sugar-producing Areas and Cuba in the proportion

that their percentages bear to each other, after eliminating the percentage which is otherwise assigned to the Beet Sugar Area. Therefore, we can anticipate that the actual final quota for the Mainland Cane Sugar Area will be appreciably in excess of the 420,166 tons which we compute to be the minimum quota for our Area.

Of interest, although it does not affect us directly, is the novel provision that the Philippines are granted a minimum quota, equal to the duty-free limitation established in the Philippine Independence Act, but that any deficit in the Philippine quota shall be re-allocated to "foreign countries other than Cuba." In practice this results in some 50,000 to 75,000 tons being made available for Central and South American countries who are negotiating Reciprocal Trade Agreements with the Secretary of State. The Philippines have declared that they do not intend to pay the world-rate of duty on sugar sent into the United States, hence their duty-free quota becomes actually the only inflexible quota under the law.

### Marketing Allotments

In Section 205 the Secretary is authorized to make allotments of quotas to processors or distributors to prevent disorderly marketing. This power has to do with the *marketing* of sugar and not with the *production* of sugar. If this power is used, the Secretary is directed to take into consideration "the past marketings or importations of each such person" who markets or imports sugar or liquid sugar, "or the ability of each person to market or import that portion of such quota or proration thereof alloted to him." This is also a discretionary power,—much the same as the power the Secretary had in this respect under the Jones-Costigan Act, but which he did not use, except in the case of the beet sugar processors for the years 1934 and 1935. The right of appeal is provided and the manner of conducting the appeal is outlined in great detail.

### Refined Sugar Restrictions

We now come to what turned out to be the most controversial provision during the consideration of the sugar bills by Congress. We refer to Section 207 which provides direct-consumption sugar quotas. These quotas remain the same in amount as under the Jones-Costigan Act, except in the case of Cuba which formerly had a direct-consumption quota of 22% of its total quota; this being a fluctuating amount ranging between 420,000 and 460,000 tons. The present law definitely fixes the amount at 375,000 tons regardless of any increase in the total Cuban quota. Now, as is well-known, the controversy really raged over the question whether the establishment of any direct-consumption sugar quota against Hawaii and Puerto Rico amounts to "discrimination". Without entering into the legal or moral aspects of this contention, on which Congress disagreed very decidedly with the Federal Departments, it is pertinent to point out that the Bill as finally adopted provides that the direct-consumption sugar quotas against Hawaii and Puerto Rico expire on March 1, 1940, although the balance of the Act expires December 31, 1940. The full provision which delayed action on the Bill for so many months, is as follows:

"Sec. 207. (a) Not more than twenty-nine thousand six hundred and sixteen short tons, raw value, of the quota for Hawaii for each of the calendar years 1937, 1938 and 1939 may be filled by direct-consumption sugar; and not more than four thousand nine hundred and thirty-six short tons, raw value, of the quota for Hawaii for the calendar year 1940 may be filled, during the first two months of such year, by direct-consumption sugar.

"(b) Not more than one hundred and twenty-six thousand and thirty-three short tons, raw value, of the quota for Puerto Rico for each of the calendar years 1937, 1938, and 1939 may be filled by direct-consumption sugar; and not more than twenty-one thousand and six short tons, raw value, of the quota for Puerto Rico for the calendar year 1940 may be filled, during the first two months of such year, by direct-consumption sugar.

"(c) None of the quota for the Virgin Islands for any calendar year may be filled by direct-consumption sugar.

"(d) Not more than eighty thousand two hundred and fourteen short tons, raw value, of the quota for the Commonwealth of the Philippine Islands for any calendar year may be filled by direct-consumption sugar.

"(e) Not more than three hundred and seventy-five thousand short tons, raw value, of the quota for Cuba for any calendar year may be filled by direct-consumption sugar.

"(f) This section shall not apply with respect to the quotas established under section 203 for marketing for local consumption in Hawaii and Puerto Rico."

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sugar, raw value. Assuming that the average extraction in Louisiana will be 160 pounds of sugar per ton of sugarcane, the grower will receive 96c per ton of sugarcane from the Government, in addition to his net return from the sugar house.

In order to qualify for these payments, the grower

(a) must not employ a child under the age of 14 years, or work a child between the ages of 14 or 16 years more than 8 hours per day. The members of the immediate family are excepted.

(b) shall pay all wages due to his labor in full, at minimum rates to be determined by the Secretary.

(c) shall not market "an amount (in terms of planted acreage, weight, or recoverable sugar content) of sugar beets or sugarcane grown on the farm and used for the production of sugar or liquid sugar" in excess of a farm allotment established by the Secretary representing the proportionate share of the farm in the quota of the Area. The Secretary is authorized that in making these allotments to farm units he may consider all quota requirements,, including a normal carry-over inventory.

(d) shall have paid or contracted to pay, if the grower is also a *processor*, for all sugarcane bought for processing, at a price not less than the rates determined by the Secretary to be fair and reasonable. This gives the Secretary the authority to supervise the purchase-contract of those processors who have applied for benefit payments on the sugarcane which they produce.

(e) must carry out farming practices consistent with the reasonable standards of the farming community in which the farm is situated, as prescribed by the Secretary for preserving and improving the fertility of the soil.

The conditions provided in (a), (b), and (c) will not apply on the 1937 crop, for the obvious reason that the cane has already been planted and cultivated, or to work performed prior to the enactment of the law. The farming practices under (e) will most probably be similar to the soil conservation requirements and perhaps some requirements on winter crops and sugarcane plantings for 1938 and later harvest.

With regard to the farm unit allotment, the proportionate share of each farm in the Area quota is to be determined by the Secretary after taking into consideration "the *past production* on the *farm* of

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sugar beets and sugarcane marketed (or processed) for the extraction of sugar or liquid sugar and the *ability to produce* such sugar beets or sugarcane, and the Secretary shall, insofar as practicable, protect the interests of new producers and small producers and the interests of producers who are cash tenants, share-tenants, adherent planters, or share-croppers."

A special provision in Section 303 authorizes payments on "bona-fide abandonment of planted acreage and crop deficiencies of harvested acreage, resulting from drought, flood, storm, freeze, disease, or insects, which cause such damage to all or a substantial part of the crop of sugar beets or sugarcane in the same factory district (as established by the Secretary), county, parish, municipality, or local producing area." On *planted acres* that are abandoned the payment shall be 1/3 of what would have been the normal yield of sugar per acre for the farm; on *harvested acres* where the crop is badly damaged, the payment will be the difference between the actual yield as harvested and 80% of what would have been the normal yield of sugar per acre.

The Act provides for reductions in benefit payments to farms which produce in excess of 500 tons of sugar or 6,000 tons of sugarcane. The reductions are such that the payments will be as follows:

| Sugarcane | Payment Per 100 pounds of sugar |
|---|---|
| 1 ton to 6,000 tons | 60c |
| 6,000 to 18,000 tons | 55c |
| 18,000 to 72,000 tons | 52.5c |
| 72,000 to 144,000 tons | 50c |
| 144,000 to 360,000 tons | 47.5c |
| More than 360,000 tons | 30c |

### Tax and Effective Date

The tax of ½c per pound of sugar, raw value, is levied on the *manufacture* of sugar. Thus no sugar which has already been manufactured is subject to tax, but all sugar which is manufactured after the enactment of the law becomes subject to the tax. However, the tax is *payable* only in the month following the sale or use of the sugar. Therefore, it is no floor stock tax. The tax does not apply to sirup of cane juice produced from sugarcane grown

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## The Matter of Misleading Statistics

At the request of the American Sugar Cane League, Senators Overton and Ellender of Louisiana have addressed official communications to Hon. Henry A. Wallace, U. S. Secretary of Agriculture, and to Hon. A. G. Black, Chief of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics of the United States Department of Agriculture, respectively, as below:

August 17, 1937.

The Honorable,
The Secretary of Agriculture
Washington, D. C.
Dear Mr. Secretary:

The Crop Reporting Board's estimate of July 10 covering sugar production in Louisiana was 376,000 tons. Its estimate of August 1st is 365,000 tons.

Prominent planters in Louisiana, who have been keeping in close touch with the 1937 crop, estimate the production at not less than 410,000. Some entertain the view that the crop yield may reach 450,000 tons.

Since there is such a difference in the estimates of the Crop Reporting Board and those engaged in the industry in Louisiana, I should be pleased for you to have a further investigation made with a view to making a correction of any errors that may exist in the estimate made by the Crop Reporting Board.

Kindly give this request your prompt attention and oblige.

Very Sincerely yours,
JOHN H. OVERTON

JHO:D
CC: Dr. Albert G. Black, Chief
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Department of Agriculture
Washington, D. C.

August 20, 1937.

Honorable Albert G. Black, Chief
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Department of Agriculture
Washington, D. C.
Dear Doctor Black:

My attention has been called to the exceptionally low sugarcane estimate made by your Crop Reporting Board. I understand that the July 10th report estimated Louisiana's crop for 1937 at 376,000 tons, and the August 10th report reduced that figure by 11,000 tons, so that the estimate for production now stands at 365,000 tons.

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Consensus of opinion among the sugarcane planters and factory men of Louisiana seems to be that this estimate is entirely too low. Private estimates range between 410,000 and 450,000 tons, and these estimates come from experienced factory men, the nature of whose business demands that they make reasonably accurate estimates of crop production, in order that contracts for cane supplies, milling supplies, storage facilities, etc. may be properly gauged.

It is natural to assume that any estimate of a sugarcane crop made several months before its harvest is liable to be off to some degree. However, it has been called to my attention that the acreage planted in Louisiana this year is even larger than last year, the constant introduction and spread of new varieties producing more tonnage per acre and more sugar per ton should by all manner of reasoning insure greater production of sugar per acre, and further, that growing conditions during the last several months have been ideal. After taking all of this into consideration, it does seem that there might be some error in the last two crop estimates put out by the Crop Reporting Board.

The purpose of this letter is to ask that you investigate the conditions referred to above so that any error in the sugarcane crop estimate can be corrected in time.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,
ALLEN J. ELLENDER.

It is very important to the Louisiana sugarcane growers that the statistical situation above referred to, and to which attention was first called in an editorial in *The Sugar Bulletin* of August 1st, 1937, be cleared up, for the following reasons:

Because the estimate of July 10th of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics was lower than any estimate received from any other source, and because the estimate of the Bureau of August 10th was further reduced instead of being increased.

Because the Crop Reporting Board estimated the sugar *beet* production in 1937, but did not estimate the *sugar* that will be produced from those beets.

Because *no* estimate was made of *Florida cane* production or of *Florida sugar* production for 1937. What is the reason for singling out *Louisiana sugar* production and for estimating it so low?

Because in the volume entitled "Agricultural Statistics for 1937" published in connection with the "Agricultural Yearbook", the Department of Agriculture has taken the past records of production in Louisiana and arbitrarily declared them to be "raw value." As a matter of fact, these figures which have been published over a number of years represent "sugar as made" which includes sugar in the form of standard granulated and other grades of direct consumption sugar produced in Louisiana.

Because the prospect of a division in the quota of the Continental Cane Area between the states of Louisiana and Florida, makes it important that in determining the basis of division, no figures are used which do not completely represent Louisiana's "past production" and "ability to produce."

The replies made by Secretary Wallace and by Mr. Black to the communications of the Louisiana Senators will be awaited with interest.

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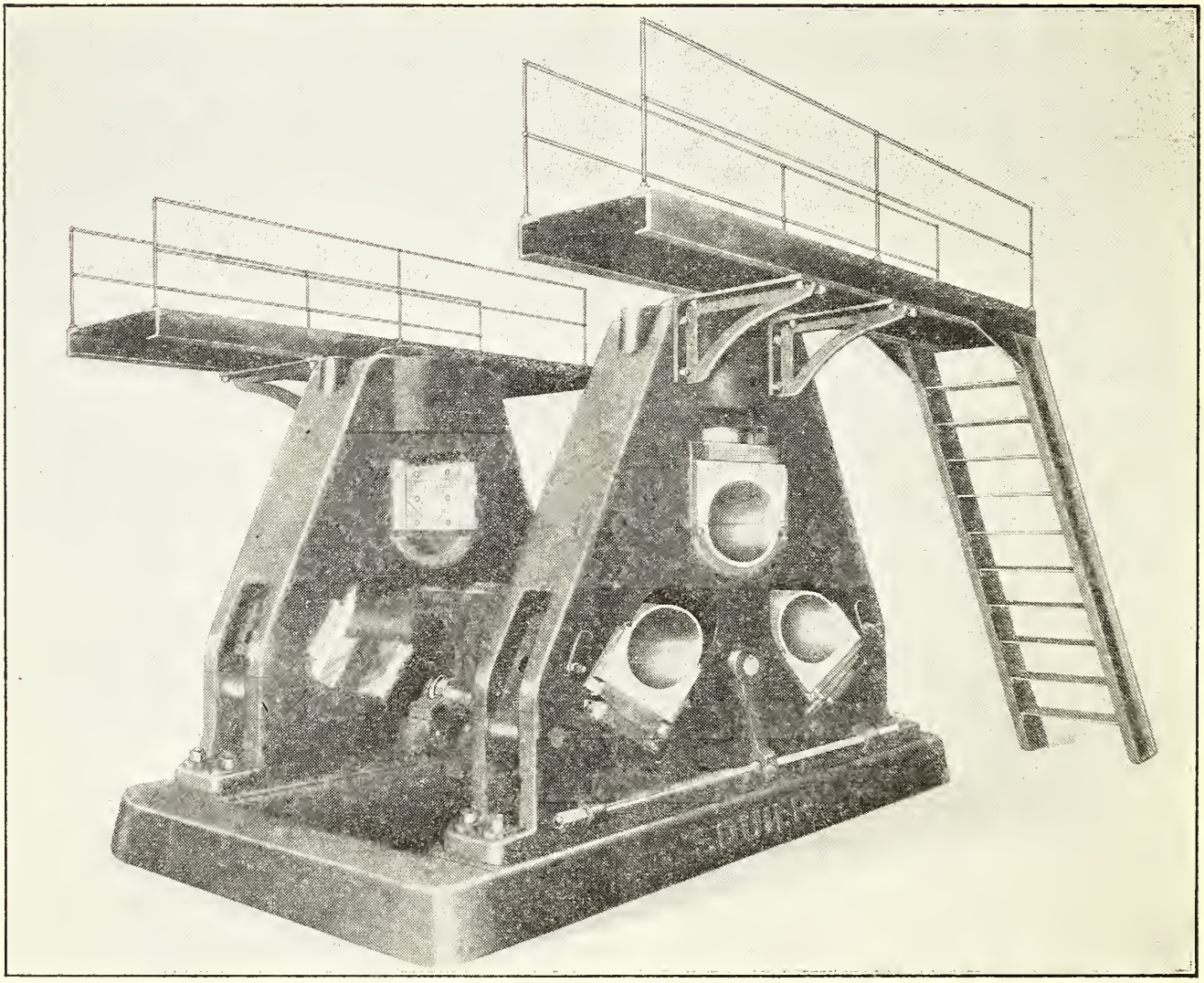

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Vol. 15 NEW ORLEANS, LA., SEPTEMBER 15, 1937 No. 24

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of the

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of the

# U. S. A., Inc.

## Thursday, September 30th, 1937

407 Carondelet St., New Orleans, La.

Meeting Convenes at 1:30 P. M.

**At this meeting there will be an election of Officers and Members of the Executive Committee to serve during the ensuing year.**

**All Members of the League Will Please Consider This as an Official Notice To Attend**

THE
# SUGAR BULLETIN

407 Carondelet St., New Orleans

Reginald Dykers, Editor

Issued on the 1st and 15th of each month. Official Organ of the American Sugar Cane League of the U. S. A., in which are consolidated
The Louisiana Sugar Planters' Assn.
The American Cane Growers' Assn.
The Producers & Mfrs. Protective Assn.
Subscription Price, 50 Cents per Year.

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# President Roosevelt Signs Sugar Bill; Makes Statement

*Hyde Park, N. Y., Sept.* 1, 1937

The problem before me raised by the enactment of H.R. 7667—the so-called sugar bill—is that the bill, intended primarily to benefit the many thousands of farmers who produce beets and sugar cane, and those who, at the place of production, refine the raw material into sugar, has been seriously impaired in its value by the inclusion of a provision intended to legalize a virtual monopoly in the hands of a small group of seaboard refiners.

I am primarily concerned with the interests of the domestic beet and cane growers and of the cane growers in the islands which are under the American flag, and the cane growers of some of our close neighbors, such as Cuba.

So far as all of these growers, domestic and insular, are concerned, the system of quotas provided in the bill is, on the whole, equitable. From this, the most important objective of the bill, I have no reason to disagree.

The sole difficulty relates to a little group of seaboard refiners who, unfortunately, for many years were able to join forces with domestic producers in the maintenance of a continuing and powerful lobby in the National Capitol and elsewhere. This lobby has cost the stockholders of these refining companies millions of dollars and it has been wholly unnecessary so far as protection of the domestic beet and cane producers has been concerned.

It is with great regret, therefore, that I find that the Congress has accorded a status quo continuation of this seaboard refinery monopoly for 2½ years to come. The bill, in this respect, gives only one ray of hope—for it provides that this refining monopoly shall terminate on March 1, 1940, whereas the beet and cane producers' quota is extended to December 31, 1940.

Since the passage of the bill, I have been given the following assurances by the Senators representing the great majority of continental sugar producers:

1. That their primary interest in sugar legislation is to afford protection to the growers of sugar beets and sugar cane in all domestic sugar producing areas of the United States, and when the sugar act of 1937 comes up for renewal they will endeavor to deal with the question of refined sugar quotas in a separate measure.

2. That they recognize the fact that Hawaii and Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands are integral parts of the United States and should not be discriminated against.

3. That when the refined sugar quotas for Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands are terminated, they will endeavor to enact legislation providing that minimum labor standards in sugar refineries in these offshore areas shall not be lower than the minimum standards in refineries on the mainland.

4. That in future legislation, they will see to it that the American housewife is protected adequately.

I have received similar assurances from responsible leaders of the House of Representatives. In view of these assurances, therefore, I am approving the bill with what amounts to a gentlemen's agreement that the unholy alliance between the cane and beet growers on the one hand, and the seaboard refining monopoly on the other has been terminated by the growers.

That means that hereafter the refiners' lobby should expect no help from the domestic growers. That is at least a definite step in the right direction.

I hope that the next session of the Congress will consider repealing or shortening the clause which continues the refining monopoly to March 1, 1940; but even if Congress does not then act, the end of the monopoly is definitely in sight and I sincerely trust that nothing will be done by the domestic growers of beets and cane to perpetuate it.

The monopoly costs the American housewife millions of dollars every year and I am just as concerned for her as I am for the farmers themselves.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT.

# Sugarcane Variety Tests During 1936

*By George Arceneaux, Agronomist, I. E. Stokes, Assistant Agronomist, and C. C. Krumbhaar, Agent, Division of Sugar Plant Investigations, Bureau of Plant Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture.*

In this report are summarized the results of plantation tests conducted with important sugarcane varieties at 10 representative localities in southern Louisiana during 1936. These form part of a continuous annual series of related tests to measure the relative yield capacities of different canes under characteristic soil and weather conditions.

The methods followed in conducting the tests and interpreting results have been previously described in detail (2).[1] The conventional "checker-board" method of plot arrangement is used, a typical group test consisting of twelve 1/40-acre plots of each variety. Field weights from these form the basis for cane-yield calculations.

Calculated sugar yields are based on similarly replicated field samples assembled and crushed at Houma by means of a 3-roller mill so regulated as to give approximately 60 percent juice extraction with Co. 281. The following milling factors are used in calculating theoretical sugar yields, as based on the Winter-Carp formula: Brix reduction factor = 0.985; sucrose reduction factor = 0.970; "normal juice" extraction = 76 percent; boiling house efficiency number = 100 percent.

**Table 1. Summary of "Varietal Correction Factors",[1] as computed from milling tests at Houma during 1931-36, inclusive. (Co. 281 = 1.00)**

| Variety | Number of milling tests conducted | | | | | Average varietal correction factor | | | | | Varietal correction factor used in calculations |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1931 1933 | 1934 | 1935 | 1936 | 1931 1936 | 1931 1933 | 1934 | 1935 | 1936 | 1931 1936 | |
| C.P. 28/11 | 4 | 9 | 6 | 12 | 31 | .987 | .960 | .957 | .955 | .961 | .96[2] |
| C.P. 28/19 | 5 | 9 | 7 | 26 | 47 | .976 | .956 | .956 | .962 | .961 | .96 |
| C.P. 807 | 6 | 8 | 6 | -- | 20 | .980 | .973 | .974 | --- | .975 | .98 |
| C.P. 29/320 | 2 | 9 | 6 | 12 | 29 | 1.007 | 1.003 | .978 | .977 | .987 | .98 |
| C.P. 29/116 | 2 | 7 | 5 | 7 | 21 | 1.056 | 1.035 | 1.068 | 1.046 | 1.049 | 1.04 |
| Co. 290 | 6 | 8 | 6 | 14 | 34 | 1.061 | 1.053 | 1.069 | 1.056 | 1.058 | 1.06 |

It is appreciated that the actual percent "normal juice" extraction to be obtained with a given variety will vary greatly depending upon milling equipment and upon physical condition of the cane resulting from seasonal environmental conditions under which it was produced. The assumed value of 76 percent for standard varieties (based on laboratory-scale complete-milling tests) is in good agreement with the general average of 75.51 percent for all Louisiana factories during 1936, reported by Grayson as derived from data compiled by the Grower-Processor Committee of Louisiana (5). The Brix and sucrose reduction factors will, of course, vary widely under different conditions, depending mainly on the extent to which initial extraction approaches that of completed milling. The values given above have been found representative of the conditions involved.

An appropriate correction is made in sugar yield calculations in case of varieties differing significantly from the standard ones as to milling qualities by the application of "varietal correction factors" given in table 1.

It is realized that an appraisal of the relative merits of the different varieties on the above basis may lead to conclusions somewhat different from those to be deduced from the application of a typical Louisiana cane-purchase contract to observed juice analyses and cane-yield data. The latter, while having the advantage of being based on actual monetary returns to a grower who sells his crop as mill-cane, presents certain difficulties and some obvious objections. In the first place, sugarcane is sold in Louisiana at present under several different contracts and determination of its value based on an arbitrarily selected purchase agreement would lose its significance under a different set of marketing conditions. Of still greater importance, inherent varietal differences as to milling qualities must be taken into consideration if the industry as a whole is to make the most economical use of available varieties.

## Tests on Light Soils

The lighter soil areas, of which Yazoo very fine sandy loam is typical, produce the bulk of the Louisiana sugarcane crop and for that reason have received primary consideration in the sugarcane testing program. The data, shown in tables 2, 3, and 4, summarizing the results of 23 replicated tests on such areas during 1936 are, therefore, considered of special interest and importance.

Co. 290 gave generally satisfactory yields of sugar per ton of cane in plant cane and first stubble tests (tables 2 and 3) harvested between November 9 and December 30, as indicated by general averages of 172.4 and 185.7 pounds, respectively. However, the average of 137.2 observed in plant cane tests in Avoyelles and Pointe Coupee parishes confirms the generally accepted inadaptability of the variety to that section of the State. In second stubble tests harvested from middle to late October (table 4), Co. 290 proved of relatively low milling value, as indicated by the average of 138.1 pounds of sugar per ton of cane, although the latter average was somewhat higher than the corresponding one for Co. 281 and definitely higher than that observed with C.P. 807. In tests at Erath (Vermilion Parish) harvested on October 23 (data not shown in table), Co. 290 yielded at the rate of 191.8 pounds of sugar per ton of cane, thus confirming experience during the past few years that this variety may be depended upon for relatively early milling in the western parishes. On the other hand, in tests at Greenwood Plantation (La-Fourche Parish) harvested on October 20, its yield of sugar per ton of cane fell to the disastrously low level of 111.6 pounds.

[1]Reference to Literature Cited_____.

[1]Factors applied to theoretical sugar yield calculations in making allowance for varietal differences in percent "normal juice" extraction and other factors affecting milling qualities. For a discussion of their derivation, the reader is referred to "Testing Cane to Determine Probable Milling Yields" by Arceneaux, Krumbhaar and Bisland. Facts About Sugar, Vol. 28: No. 9, Sept., 1933.

[2]The original factors of .98 for C.P. 28/11 and C.P. 28/19 and of 1.00 for C.P. 29/320 tentatively assigned in 1933 proved, as a result of more extensive tests later conducted, to be too high.

Table 2. Results of plant cane variety tests on light soils during 1936. Harvest dates—November 27 to December 30, inclusive.

| Variety | Southeastern Parishes (Average of three tests in Terrebonne and Lafourche Parishes). | Southwestern Parishes (Average of five tests in St. Mary, Iberia, Lafayette and Vermilion Parishes) | Pointe Coupee and Avoyelles Parishes (Average of two tests). | Average of 10 tests in 8 Parishes |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Yield of cane per acre (Tons) | | | | |
| Co. 281 | 32.61 | 22.56 | 28.67 | 26.80 |
| Co. 290 | 45.99 | 35.73 | 44.68 | 40.59 |
| CP 28/11 | 30.78 | 21.11 | 33.74 | 26.54 |
| CP 28/19 | 31.40 | 22.50 | 30.56 | 26.78 |
| CP 92/116 | 46.16 | 34.31 | ----- | ----- |
| CP 29/320 | 37.52 | 24.25 | 36.07 | 30.60 |
| Indicated yield of 96° sugar per ton of cane[1] | | | | |
| Co. 281 | 185.0 | 205.5 | 158.1 | 187.8 |
| Co. 290 | 171.7 | 190.4 | 137.2 | 172.4 |
| CP 28/11 | 183.1 | 200.9 | 151.2 | 182.1 |
| CP 28/19 | 216.5 | 225.0 | 189.8 | 214.0 |
| CP 29/116 | 151.5 | 168.3 | ----- | ----- |
| CP 29/320 | 194.1 | 205.6 | 172.6 | 193.6 |
| Indicated yield of 96° sugar per acre (Pounds) | | | | |
| Co. 281 | 6,033 | 4,635 | 4,533 | 5,043 |
| Co. 290 | 7,897 | 6,802 | 6,128 | 6,996 |
| CP 28/11 | 5,635 | 4,241 | 5,103 | 4,832 |
| CP 28/19 | 6,797 | 5,062 | 5,799 | 5,730 |
| CP 29/116 | 6,992 | 5,776 | ----- | ----- |
| CP 29/320 | 7,284 | 4,986 | 6,225 | 5,923 |

[1]Weighted average. (Averaging yield of sugar per acre divided by average yield of cane per acre).

Table 3. Results of first stubble variety tests on light soils during 1936. Harvest dates—November 9 to December 24, inclusive.

| Variety | Southeastern Parishes (Average of three tests in Terrebonne and Lafourche Parishes). | Southwestern Parishes (Average of five tests in St. Mary, Iberia, Lafayette and Vermilion Parishes) | Pointe Coupee and Avoyelles Parishes (Average of two tests). | Average of 10 tests in 8 Parishes |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Yield of cane per acre (Tons) | | | | |
| Co. 281 | 29.31 | 14.17 | 15.69 | 19.01 |
| Co. 290 | 44.36 | 27.70 | 30.30 | 33.22 |
| CP 807 | 36.63 | 23.53 | 27.62 | 28.28 |
| CP 28/11 | 31.94 | 21.50 | 22.94 | 24.92 |
| CP 28/19 | 31.00 | 18.61 | 19.98 | 22.60 |
| CP 29/320 | 35.18 | 23.24 | 27.43 | 27.66 |
| Indicated yield of 96° sugar per ton of cane[1] | | | | |
| Co. 281 | 192.4 | 209.9 | 171.5 | 195.5 |
| Co. 290 | 181.8 | 196.5 | 169.7 | 185.7 |
| CP 807 | 178.8 | 192.3 | 158.8 | 180.5 |
| CP 28/11 | 204.1 | 204.4 | 178.5 | 199.5 |
| CP 28/19 | 225.0 | 224.7 | 199.7 | 220.4 |
| CP 29/320 | 211.6 | 219.6 | 193.3 | 211.4 |
| Indicated yield of 96° sugar per acre (Pounds) | | | | |
| Co. 281 | 5,639 | 2,974 | 2,691 | 3,717 |
| Co. 290 | 8,065 | 5,443 | 5,142 | 6,169 |
| CP 807 | 6,549 | 4,525 | 4,387 | 5,105 |
| CP 28/11 | 6,518 | 4,394 | 4,094 | 4,971 |
| CP 28/19 | 6,976 | 4,181 | 3,990 | 4,982 |
| CP 29/320 | 7,444 | 5,104 | 5,301 | 5,846 |

[1]Weighted. Average. (Average yield of sugar per acre divided by average yield of cane per acre).

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Table 4. Results of second stubble variety tests on light soils during 1936. Harvest dates—Oct. 16 to 28, inc. (Average of 5 tests in the Parishes of Terrebonne, Lafourche, Vermilion, Avoyelles and Pointe Coupee).

| Variety | Average yield of cane per acre | Indicated yield of 96° sugar | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | Per ton of cane[1] | Per acre |
| POJ 234 | 11.31 | 146.1 | 1,652 |
| Co. 281 | 17.13 | 136.1 | 2,331 |
| Co. 290 | 31.53 | 138.1 | 4,353 |
| CP 807 | 26,72 | 128.0 | 3,419 |
| CP 28/11 | 25,40 | 148.8 | 3,779 |
| CP 28/19 | 20.84 | 167.2 | 3,484 |
| Co. 281 | 17.48 | 133.6 | 2,336 |
| CP 29/320[2] | 30.06 | 171.4 | 5,151 |

While Co. 290 is indeed a very popular variety in Louisiana, it is regarded by many as a "low sucrose" and "dangerous" variety. Fundamentally, it is a much better cane than generally given credit for. In the first place, it is well appreciated, but not usually recognized in purchase agreements, that because of its relatively low fiber content this variety will greatly surpass other extensively cultivated ones in percent "normal juice" extraction. Furthermore, the difference in analysis between crusher juice and normal juice is ordinarily much less in the case of Co. 290 than with varieties such as Co. 281, C.P. 28/11, and C.P 28/19 and reduction factors based on results obtained with the latter will give erroneous values when applied to Co. 290. By correcting calculated sugar yields for the above-mentioned varietal differences the estimate of the relative merit of Co. 290 is significantly changed.

[1]Weighted average.
[2]Average results obtained in preliminary tests in same localities.

In the average of 8 plant cane tests in the southern parishes (table 2), C.P. 29/116 maintained an average yield of cane per acre approximately equal to that of Co. 290, but was consistently below the latter in indicated yield of sugar per ton of cane. This is in agreement with previous evaluations of the variety based on more limited tests, and indicates rather conclusively that under present varietal levels of productivity, C.P. 29/116 can not generally compete with Co. 290. It is possible that as a result of more extensive tests in the future, C.P. 29/116 may be found useful for certain conditions not adequately covered by tests so far conducted, but, for the present at least, the variety should be confined to relatively small plantings.

Of the three early maturing varieties now available, C.P. 28/11 would seem to be almost out of the question for general cultivation on light soil areas. Results obtained during 1936, which are in very good agreement with previous ones, indicate that this variety is inferior to both C.P. 28/19 and C.P. 29/320 in available sugar per ton of cane. While superior to C.P. 28/19 in stubbling qualities, as indicated by an average advantage over the latter of 2.32 tons of cane per acre in first stubble tests (table 3) and 4.56 tons in second stubble tests (table 4), its yield of sugar per acre was definitely below that of C.P. 28/19 in the aggregate of plant cane, first and second stubble crops. The relative usefulness of C.P. 28/11 under Louisiana conditions is still further reduced by its extreme susceptibility to wind damage, as demonstrated under gale conditions during 1936 (6) and on

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previous occasions.

Thus, the choice of variety for early milling purposes at present would seem to lie chiefly between C.P. 28/19 and C.P. 29/320. Of the two, C.P. 28/19 has been grown much more extensively, and its satisfactory record both in experimental and commercial plantings, particularly under the low sucrose conditions prevailing during the early part of the 1936 harvest, has established the variety as a most important one for Louisiana. Experimental results so far available indicate that C.P. 29/320 is a close competitor of C.P. 28/19 in point of earliness and will ordinarily produce higher yields of cane per acre. The average differences as to the latter observed during 1936, which are more or less typical, were approximately 4 tons per acre in the average of plant cane tests (table 2), approximately 5 tons per acre in the average of first stubble tests (table 3) and slightly over 9 tons per acre in second stubble tests (table 4).

Observed yields of sugar per ton of cane from C.P. 29/320 have, on the whole, been under corresponding ones from C.P. 28/19, although at relatively early dates, the reverse is usually true. This is illustrated by the results of comparative maturity at Houma during 1934, 1935, and 1936, given in table 5 with averages graphically represented in figure 1. During 1934 and 1935, the observed superiority of C.P. 29/320 to C.P. 28/19 was rather definitely limited to the preharvest period (September to early October with stubble and September to early November with plant cane). It is interesting to note, however, that under difficult ripening conditions characterizing the early part of the 1936 harvest, C.P. 29/320 remained ahead of C.P. 28/19 until after October 15 in both stubble and plant cane comparisons. This is corroborated by the results obtained in second stubble plantation tests, harvested between October 16 and October 28, 1936 (table 4), in which C.P. 29/320 maintained an average advantage over C.P. 28/19 of slightly over 4 pounds of sugar per ton of cane. In first stubble variety tests (table 3) harvested between November 9 and December 24, C.P. 28/19 outyielded C.P. 29/320 by 9 pounds of sugar per ton of cane, while in plant cane tests (table 2) harvested between November 27 and December 30, the average difference in favor of C.P. 28/19 was more than 20 pounds per ton of cane. In all cases, however, C.P. 29/320 maintained a relatively high level of available sugar content, being rather consistently second only to C.P. 28/19 in this respect among the varieties tested.

In plant cane tests, the superiority of C.P. 29/320 to C.P. 28/19 in yield of cane per acre did not much more than make up for the previously mentioned opposite difference in available sugar content, thus resulting in more or less similar yields of sugar per acre. In the average of all plant cane tests, the advantage was slightly in favor of C.P. 29/320 during 1936 (table 2) and about as equally in favor of C.P. 28/19 in 1935 (1). In the average of tests during 1936, C.P. 29/320 surpassed C.P. 28/19 in yield of sugar per acre by the significant amount of 864 pounds as first stubble (table 3) and by more than 1,600 pounds as second stubble (table 4). Thus, it is plainly indicated that in the aggregate of plant cane and the usual two stubble crops, C.P. 29/320 may be expected to outyield C.P. 28/19 in sugar per acre by a very substantial margin.

In comparing C.P. 28/19 and C.P. 29/320 for early milling, certain obvious shortcomings of the latter should be borne in mind. Its susceptibility to wind damage (6) is quite generally appreciated. In addition, as mentioned above, its sugar content, while indeed satisfactory, has, on the average, been below that of C.P. 28/19. On the other hand, in addition to the previously mentioned advantage as to yields, C.P. 29/320 has a lower fiber content and possesses distinctly superior field handling qualities.

Considering all information so far available, it would seem desirable to materially expand proportionate plantings of C.P. 29/320 on the acreage to be devoted to cane in the immediate future. However, because of the generally satisfactory record of C.P. 28/19, particularly as regards plantation experience, the above could hardly be interpreted as justifying extensive substitution of C.P. 29/320 for C.P. 28/19 at this time. It is quite probable, however, that, with the accumulation of more extensive and conclusive results, it may be found profitable to accord C.P. 29/320 a much more prominent place than considered advisable at present.

**Table 5. Comparative yields of sugar per ton of cane observed at Houma with C.P. 28/19 and C.P. 29/320 at different dates between September 5 and December 15 during 1934, 1935 and 1936.**

| Variety | Year | Yield of 96° sugar | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Sept. 5 | Sept. 25 | Oct. 15 | Nov. 1 | Nov. 15 | Dec. 1 | Dec. 15 |
| **Plant Cane** | | | | | | | | |
| C.P. 28/19 | 1934 | 67.8 | 116.1 | 165.1 | 195.3 | 218.1 | 217.8 | 222.6 |
| C.P. 28/19 | 1935 | 66.4 | 114.2 | 150.9 | 179.0 | 215.8 | 222.7 | 220.5 |
| C.P. 28/19 | 1936 | 47.8 | 87.0 | 119.2 | 162.9 | 178.2 | 182.1 | 194.4 |
| C.P. 29/320 | 1934 | 70.5 | 117.9 | 155.2 | 182.3 | 195.6 | 200.8 | 198.9 |
| C.P. 29/320 | 1935 | 76.2 | 121.4 | 152.5 | 181.8 | 188.5 | 203.4 | 189.6 |
| C.P. 29/320 | 1936 | 65.1 | 101.1 | 128.7 | 154.5 | 169.4 | 165.1 | 170.0 |
| C.P. 28/19 | Av. 1934–1936 | 60.7 | 105.8 | 145.1 | 179.1 | 204.0 | 207.5 | 212.5 |
| C.P. 29/320 | Av. 1934–1936 | 70.6 | 113.5 | 145.5 | 172.9 | 184.5 | 189.8 | 186.2 |
| **First Stubble** | | | | | | | | |
| C.P. 28/19 | 1934 | 92.2 | 162.8 | 200.1 | 224.4 | 236.9 | 232.7 | 233.4 |
| C.P. 28/19 | 1935 | 126.0 | 164.4 | 195.7 | 230.6 | 248.8 | 251.0 | 247.8 |
| C.P. 28/19 | 1936 | 122.5 | 140.6 | 170.9 | 199.0 | 222.2 | 223.9 | 230.2 |
| C.P. 29/320 | 1934 | 98.1 | 136.6 | 173.3 | 196.5 | 214.9 | 222.3 | 217.1 |
| C.P. 29/320 | 1935 | 121.7 | 138.0 | 167.9 | 203.8 | 211.1 | 223.1 | 224.6 |
| C.P. 29/320 | 1936 | 125.2 | 148.7 | 179.0 | 192.5 | 211.2 | 210.5 | 218.7 |
| C.P. 28/19 | Av. 1934–1936 | 113.6 | 155.9 | 188.9 | 218.0 | 236.0 | 235.9 | 237.1 |
| C.P. 29/320 | Av. 1934–1936 | 115.0 | 141.1 | 173.4 | 197.6 | 212.4 | 218.6 | 220.1 |

Co. 281 continues to be the least productive variety now in extensive cultivation, in spite of its usually good yield of sugar per ton of cane. In the average of all tests (plant cane, first and second stubble) its annual yield of sugar per acre was more than 1,000 pounds below the corresponding yield from C.P. 28/19, which is an enormous though undoubtedly justifiable toll for the advantage of satisfactory windrowing qualities found only in this variety among those now available for commercial cultivation (4).

In the average of five second stubble tests harvested

(Continued on page 8)

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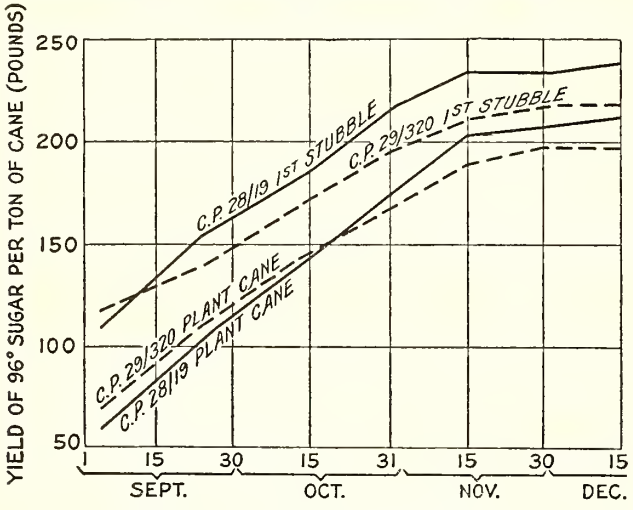
from middle to late October, P.O.J. 234 yielded at the rate of 21.1 pounds of sugar per ton less than C.P. 28/19 and gave but little more than half the latter's yield of cane per acre.

Fig. 1. Graphical summary of comparative yields of 96° sugar per ton of cane from C.P. 28/19 and C.P. 29/320 at different dates. (Average of 1934, 1935 and 1936).




## Tests on Heavy Clay Soils

Results of tests on heavy soil areas during 1936 are summarized in table 6. In plant cane tests planted under exceedingly dry conditions (early October, 1935), stands were quite generally poor. In the one on Greenwood Plantation (figures not shown), C.P. 28/19 made a virtual failure with a yield of less than 2 tons of cane per acre. In the three other tests, this variety gave fairly satisfactory cane yields in spite of rather gappy stands, as indicated by the average of 15.17 tons per acre for the four tests (table 6). Under the same conditions, C.P. 807 and especially Co. 290 gave much better results. The larger stalk size of Co. 290 resulting in lesser drying out of seed cane was no doubt an important factor in the relatively better stands which were obtained with this variety.

**Table 6. Results of variety tests on heavy clay soils in Louisiana during 1936.**

| Variety | Plant Cane[1] | | | 1st Stubble[2] | | | 2nd Stubble[3] | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Average yield of cane per acre | Indicated yield of 96° sugar | | Average yield of cane per acre | Indicated yield of 96° sugar | | Average yield of cane per acre | Indicated yield of 96° sugar | |
| | | Per ton of cane | Per acre | | Per ton of cane | Per acre | | Per ton of cane | Per acre |
| | Tons | Lbs. | Lbs. | Tons | Lbs. | Lbs. | Tons | Lbs. | Lbs. |
| Co. 290 | 32.90 | 159.8[4] | 5258 | 29.13 | 192.4[4] | 5604 | 33.39 | 134.6[4] | 4495 |
| Co. 281 | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | 18.93 | 132.6 | 2511 |
| CP 807 | 24.72 | 157.2 | 3885 | 24.42 | 173.2 | 4229 | 27.57 | 132.9 | 3663 |
| CP 28/11 | ---- | ---- | ---- | 22.83 | 196.3 | 4482 | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| CP 28/19 | 15.17 | 187.2 | 2840 | 19.55 | 209.1 | 4087 | 21.42 | 167.4 | 3585 |

[1]Average of 4 tests in the Parishes of Terrebonne, Lafourche, St. Mary and Pointe Coupee. Harvest dates—December 2 to 16.

[2]Average of 5 tests in Parishes of Terrebonne, Lafourche, St. Mary, Iberia and Pointe Coupee. Harvest dates—October 27 to Nov. 19.

[3]Average of 3 tests in Parishes of Terrebonne, Lafourche and Pointe Coupee. Harvest dates—October 16 to 29.

[4]Weighted averages.

In first and second stubble tests (table 6) from plant cane which had been planted under more favorable germinating conditions, C.P. 28/19 maintained an average yield of sugar per acre but slightly below that from C.P. 807, but more than 1,200 pounds below that from Co. 290. In the average of first stubble tests (only comparisons on this soil type this year) C.P. 28/11 was approximately 1,100 pounds below Co. 290 in yield of sugar per acre. C.P. 807 was consistently below Co. 290 in the average yields of cane per acre and sugar per ton of cane.

The satisfactory utilization of heavy clay soils of the Louisiana sugarcane district, of which Sharkey clay may be regarded as typical, has proven a difficult problem and so far none of the available varieties has proven entirely adaptable to the exacting conditions involved. Of the two varieties, C.P. 807 and Co. 290, extensively tested and cultivated on "black land", the latter has generally proven the more valuable one. It lacks, however, sufficiently early maturing qualities to permit its being harvested at an early enough date to avoid in all cases the difficult hauling conditions which may be expected in these low-lying areas during the middle to latter part of the harvest season. In addition, this variety is not sufficiently resistant to red-rot to insure satisfactory stands under all conditions. In spite of the above-mentioned limitations, however, its cultivation on heavy clay areas has been fairly satisfactory. In the Teche section and quite generally in the southeastern parishes, it has produced cane of satisfactory milling quality. It cannot, however, be recommended for Pointe Coupee, Avoyelles and adjacent parishes.

C.P. 28/19 and C.P. 28/11 have been proposed as possible substitutes for Co. 290 and C.P. 807 on clay soils. In experimental as well as plantation-scale plantings, C.P. 28/19 has, particularly in the better class of these soils, given fairly satisfactory results, although as previously pointed out, it has, in some instances at least, proven extremely unsatisfactory. Inasmuch as the cultivation of these soil areas involves at best a considerable element of risk, the hazard involved in planting C.P. 28/19 may prove justifiable, although it would seem inadvisable to use this variety on the worst types of soils of this group.

C.P. 28/11 has rather consistently outyielded C.P. 28/19 in sugar per acre on clay soil areas. Its well known resistance to red rot and superior stubbling qualities are assets well worth considering. On the other hand, its previously mentioned extreme susceptibility to wind damage introduces a considerable element of risk in its extensive cultivation. Furthermore, in point of earliness, this variety cannot be considered in a class with either C.P. 28/19 or C.P. 29/320. While it has been rather consistently above Co. 290 in sucrose content of the juice, this apparent advantage is greatly reduced when an appropriate correction is made for varietal differences in milling qualities. For instance, in five first stubble tests during 1936 (table 6), C.P. 28/11 averaged only 3.9 pounds of sugar per ton of cane higher than Co. 290. In this case, if no allowance had been made for differences in milling properties, C.P. 28/11 would have shown an apparent advantage over Co. 290 of 23 pounds of sugar per ton of cane.

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Table 7. Results of variety tests on muck soil, Clovelly Farms, Cut Off, Louisiana during 1936.

| Variety | Plant cane Harvested December 7 | | | 1st Stubble Harvested November 23 | | | 2nd Stubble Harvested November 2 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Average yield of cane per acre | Indicated yield of 96° sugar | | Average yield of cane per acre | Indicated yield of 96° sugar | | Average yield of cane per acre | Indicated yield of 96° sugar | |
| | | Per ton of cane | Per acre | | Per ton of cane | Per acre | | Per ton of cane | Per acre |
| | Tons | Lbs. | Lbs. | Tons | Lbs. | Lbs. | Tons | Lbs. | Lbs. |
| D 95 | 9.84 | 181.1 | 1,782 | ---- | ---- | ---- | 8.34 | 150.2 | 1,253 |
| Co. 281 | 27.24 | 165.9 | 4,519 | 38.50 | 145.2 | 5,590 | 34.70 | 133.3 | 4,626 |
| CP 28/11 | 19.32 | 151.6 | 2,929 | 38.10 | 158.8 | 6,050 | 35,34 | 154.0 | 5,442 |
| CP 28/19 | 32.96 | 199.9 | 6,589 | 35.30 | 193.7 | 6,838 | 33.60 | 191.9 | 6,448 |
| CP 29/320 | 32.92 | 185.7 | 6,113 | 40.94 | 170.9 | 6,997 | ---- | ---- | ---- |

Preliminary results obtained in experimental and plantation-scale plantings indicate that "summer planting" (August 1 to 15) may prove advantageous with C.P. 28/19 and Co. 290 on heavy soil areas (3). In addition to offering the possibility of greatly improved stands, the practice would minimize the chances for immature plant cane.

### Tests on Muck Soil

Confirming observations during previous years, the results of tests summarized in table 7 indicate very conclusively the superiority of C. P. 28/19 to the erstwhile standard variety, D. 95.

C.P. 28/11 again proved decidedly inferior to C.P. 28/19 in sugar per ton of cane and per acre. The extremely unsatisfactory results obtained with the former in the plant cane test were undoubtedly due in part to extensive damage suffered in a storm on June 16 (6), following which counts showed that more than 77 percent of the stalks one foot or more in height were broken. The damage to stubble of C.P. 28/11 was somewhat less than to the plant cane but much more severe than observed in any of the other varieties.

C.P. 29/320 while falling consistently below C.P. 28/19 in yield of sugar per ton of cane and quite generally below the latter in sugar per acre may prove of some advantage because of its larger stalk size and better handling qualities. It is considered distinctly preferable to D. 95.

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# A Preliminary Study of the Use of Air Agitation for Graining and Curing of Louisiana String Sugars[1]


*By Emil K. Ventre, Carbohydrate Research Division, Bureau of Chemistry and Soils, U. S. Department of Agriculture.*


Each year in Louisiana twenty-five or more factories make string sugars. The number varies each season, being largely influenced by the demand for first and second molasses. As it will be some time, due to various reasons, before these factories will be equipped with crystallizers, any satisfactory inexpensive method to secure a yield and shorten the time needed for curing these sugars would be most desirable. Such a method should enable these factories not equipped with crystallizers to convert their unsold molasses satisfactorily into sugars and result in removing them from the mercy of the high grade molasses market. It would further enable them to produce raw sugar more profitably in the event of a market advantage.

String sugars are well adapted to the holiday baking trade, and if it is possible to dry sugars made during the first part of the crop before Christmas, marketing of these sugars should be more advantageous then than in the month of July, as is usually practiced.

Air agitation has long been used in Louisiana as a corrective measure for poor purging and non-purging string sugar massecuites. Intermittent agitation is usually resorted to when at the beginning of the summer drying season it is found that the string massecuites do not purge. If a single thorough agitation with air corrects the purging qualities sufficiently, the effect is mainly due to stratification of the different size sugar crystals. Also, some growth of the sugar crystals usually obtains as the crystals are again brought into contact with the comparatively rich (higher purity) supernatant molasses. If continued or successive agitation has to be resorted to in order to correct the purging qualities of the massecuite, the large percentage of small crystals such a massecuite usually contains has to be built up to a size that will result in interstices in the centrifuge sufficiently large to permit the viscous molasses to drain through. The results of this type of agitation are two-fold in that at the same time the sugar crystals are increased in size, the mother liquor (molasses) is lowered in density and viscosity.

Taggart[2] has observed in the manufacture of hot room string sugars that when the temperature of the massecuite is raised abnormally just before discharging, the massecuite "froths" and a better yield of sugar is secured. This suggests that artificial "frothing" produced by air agitation should be expected to produce similar results. A pilot plant scale experiment was undertaken, and on November 17, 1936, a large hot room car placed in the factory was filled two-thirds full of regular factory run string sugar massecuite (Brix 90.52 and apparent purity 41.76). A perforated cross header was placed in the bottom

(Continued on page 12)

[1]The author wishes to acknowledge with appreciation the cooperation extended by A. Wilbert Sons sugar factory and the Audubon Sugar School, Department of Chemical Engineering, College of Pure and Applied Science, Louisiana State University, in conducting this work.

[2]Taggart, W. G. Personal communication to the author.

# TESTS SHOW GREATER PROFIT FROM 'AERO' CYANAMID ALONE

**Yields of Cane and Sugar on Stubble Cane from Cyanamid Only, and Cyanamid and Superphosphate**

| | ACRE APPLICATION | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 200 lbs. Cyanamid only | | 200 lbs. Cyanamid and 200 lbs. superphosphate | |
| 1929* | *Tons Cane* | *Lbs. Sugar* | *Tons Cane* | *Lbs. Sugar* |
| Estate of H. C. Minor (Crescent Farm) | 21.34 | 4268 | 22.63 | 4489 |
| Godchaux Sugars (Mary Plantation) | 33.69 | 5546 | 32.48 | 5394 |
| Glenwood Sugars | 34.15 | 6425 | 33.54 | 6160 |
| Sterling Sugars (Camperdown Plantation) | 24.65 | 4896 | 25.71 | 5008 |
| South Coast (Ashland Plantation) | 25.97 | 4177 | 24.63 | 4024 |
| Average (1929) | 27.96 | 5062 | 27.79 | 5015 |
| 1930** | | | | |
| Estate of Harry L. Laws (Cinclare) | 19.92 | 2105 | 20.77 | 2068 |
| Glenwood Sugars | 17.41 | 2751 | 17.84 | 2694 |
| South Coast (Ashland Plantation) | 20.42 | 3491 | 20.94 | 3767 |
| South Coast (Ashland Plantation) | 26.73 | 5045 | 26.40 | 4775 |
| J. M. Burguieres Co. (Midway Plantation) | 17.54 | 3229 | 17.31 | 3202 |
| W. N. Bergeron (Enola Plantation) | 18.66 | 3170 | 20.58 | 3510 |
| M. A. Patout & Sons (Enterprise Plantation) | 17.04 | 2950 | 18.63 | 3094 |
| J. W. Supple's Sons (Kinsale Plantation) | 26.06 | 3522 | 25.62 | 3433 |
| E. G. Robichaux Co. (Valence Plantation) | 24.73 | 4697 | 26.03 | 4749 |
| Average (1930) | 20.94 | 3440 | 21.56 | 3476 |
| 1931** | | | | |
| E. G. Robichaux Co. | 23.02 | 4006 | 22.79 | 3673 |
| Godchaux Sugars (Raceland) | 21.01 | 3044 | 20.78 | 2963 |
| Estate of H. C. Minor (Southdown) | 12.32 | 2238 | 13.40 | 2344 |
| J. W. Supple's Sons (Catherine) | 18.06 | 2418 | 17.57 | 2260 |
| Alma Plantation | 13.25 | 2190 | 10.05 | 1675 |
| Dugas & LeBlanc (Westfield) | 27.69 | 4279 | 28.77 | 4462 |
| Average (1931) | 19.22 | 3029 | 18.89 | 2896 |

*Reported by Arthur H. Rosenfeld in "Facts About Sugar", Vol. 26, No. 3.
**Reported in Louisiana Experiment Station Bulletin 237.

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to distribute air over the bottom of the car and connected with the regular factory compressed air supply. Air agitation was begun at once, but it had to be intermittent at first as the highly viscous mass formed a slowly subsiding foam. As soon as this foam subsided the mass was agitated again. After a period of about ten days, when crystallization had progressed sufficiently to lower the viscosity of the mother liquor (molasses), agitation could be applied for longer periods before it was necessary to allow the foam to subside. When the grain was of sufficient size for centrifuging, a sample was removed and spun in a 12-inch diameter centrifuge running 1725 R.P.M.

Agitation was stopped on January 5, 1937, after taking a sample, and the massecuite was allowed to stand until June 3, 1937, when it was thoroughly mixed and a sample spun. Some evaporation was obtained by the air agitation as the Brix of the massecuite had increased to 91.18 on December 20, 1936 and to 96.72 on January 5, 1937, when the air was stopped because it channeled instead of mixing at this high density. It is not expected that as much evaporation will obtain in larger tanks, but this can be equalized by boiling the massecuite to a higher initial Brix.

No water was used in the centrifugal, and a thirty-minute cycle allowed, except on January 5th a 20-minute cycle, and on June 3rd a 10-minute cycle. The massecuite charge was weighed and the sugar all carefully removed from the basket and weighed. The table below gives the date samples were taken, yield and polarization of sugar recovered.

TABLE I.

| *Date* | *Third Sugar* | |
|---|---|---|
| | *Yield lbs. per cu. ft. by weight* | *Polarization* |
| December 13, 1936 | 8.8 | 89.3 |
| December 20, 1936 | 12.65 | 89.8 |
| December 30, 1936 | 13.27 | 92.0 |
| January 5, 1937 | 20.47 | 92.8 |
| June 3, 1937 | 22.2 | 92.2 |

Analysis of the final molasses from the test of June 3, 1937, gave Brix 92.94 and apparent purity 24.74.

**Summary**

The results of this pilot plant experiment were as follows:

(1) Better than the average yield of third sugars was obtained in about six weeks, as compared with that obtained by present practice in six months.

(2) An increase of only one and three-quarters pounds of third sugars per cubic foot of massecuite was obtained by allowing the massecuite to stand six months after stopping the air agitation.

(3) A more uniform size and a greater quantity of grain were produced after the second agitation than was obtained by the usual method.

(4) By use of air for securing grain and the subsequent agitation of third sugar massecuites, nearly twice the yield of third sugars was obtained than is usually secured at the present time in Louisiana.

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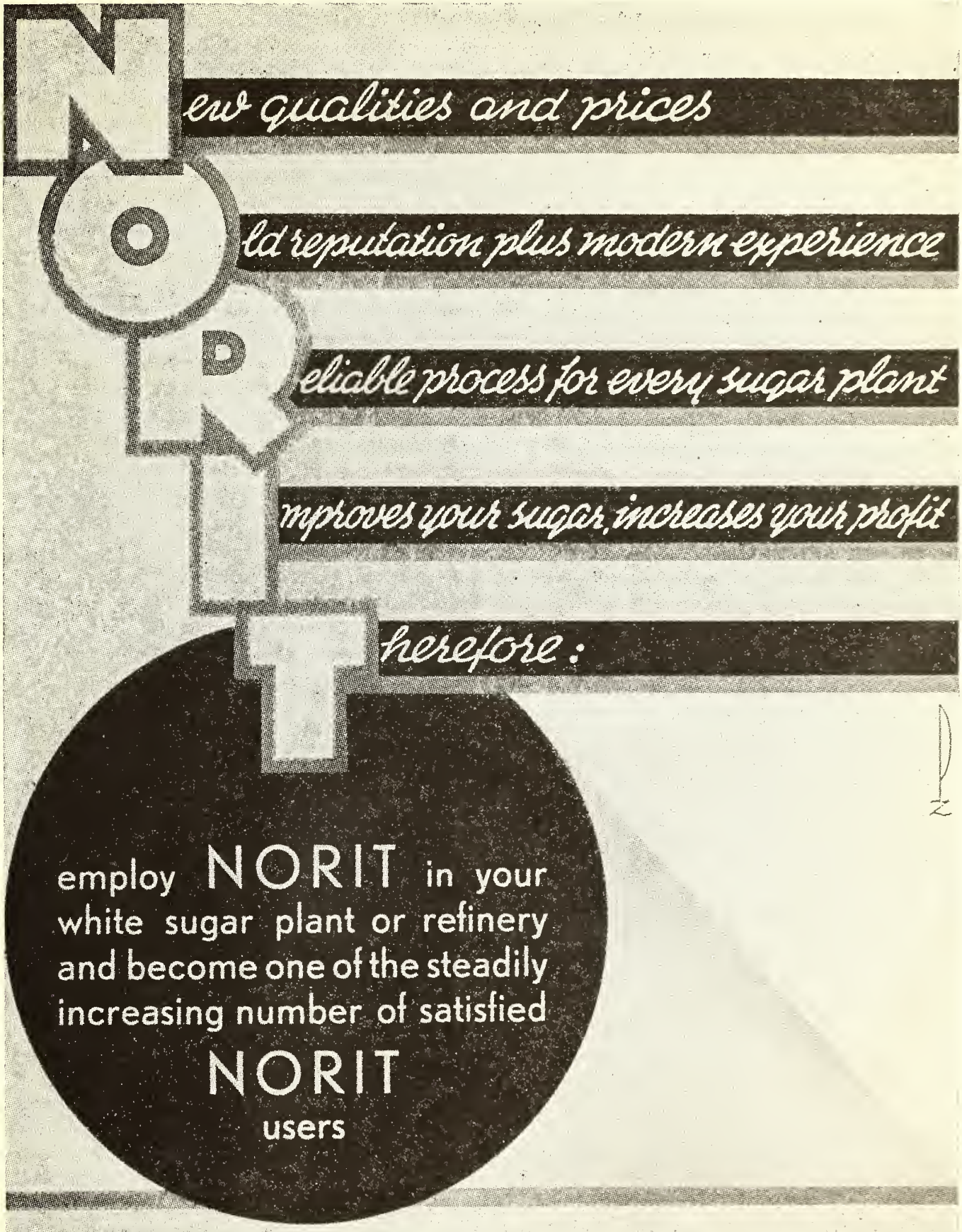
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# The Story of the New Canes

**The following statement of Mr. Elliott Jones, Southdown Plantation, Houma, La., was presented by Senator Allen J. Ellender, of Louisiana, at the Hearings before the Finance Committee of the United States Senate on Aug. 7, 1937. We print it both as a matter of information and as a matter of record:**

I will attempt to draw comparisons, from the standpoint of Louisiana sugarcane production, between three very distinct periods of the sugar industry during my connection with it since 1920. These three periods are (1) the decline in production of the varieties D-74 and Louisiana Purple, the old varieties; the period (2) when the P.O.J. canes were introduced and declined; and the current period of the C.P. and Coimbatore varieties. In making this comparison I will use figures which are taken from crop production records on lands under my supervision, but as one cannot wholly be guided by figures, I will make comments on them, which, in my opinion, are in order.

To represent the first period I have used the years 1921, 1922 and 1923, when we were growing the old varieties of cane exclusively. The obvious decline in yield of these varieties began in this parish in 1922, and as you know they were out of the picture by 1927, so far as Terrebonne Parish was concerned. On this property we began replacing the old varieties with the P.O.J. canes in 1924 and had them in full production in 1927. I have used the years 1927 and 1928 as typical of the P.O.J. canes under best conditions. I would have preferred using three consecutive years instead of two but the records of our crop of 1929 are not representative, due to early and successive freezes, and the crop could not be conserved by windrowing, as none of the P.O.J. canes would keep in windrow. After 1929 the P.O.J. canes likewise began to succumb to disease, and they passed out of the picture in 1934. Since 1934 the Coimbatore and C.P. varieties have been grown exclusively by us, and thanks to the United States Department of Agriculture other varieties are being bred in large numbers and superior selections can be made from them to fill our needs whenever disease may attack the varieties we are growing currently.

Here's what the D-74 and Louisiana Purple varieties produced in the period which I have chosen to consider:

| Year | Total acres in cane | Average yield per acre | Acres used as seed for succeeding crop |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | Tons | |
| 1921 | 2,278 | 20.3 | 495 |
| 1922 | 2,733 | 15.9 | 531 |
| 1923 | 3,050 | 6.9 | 823 |

During the course of the crop year 1921 it was evident that mosaic disease and other diseases were

(Continued on page 16)

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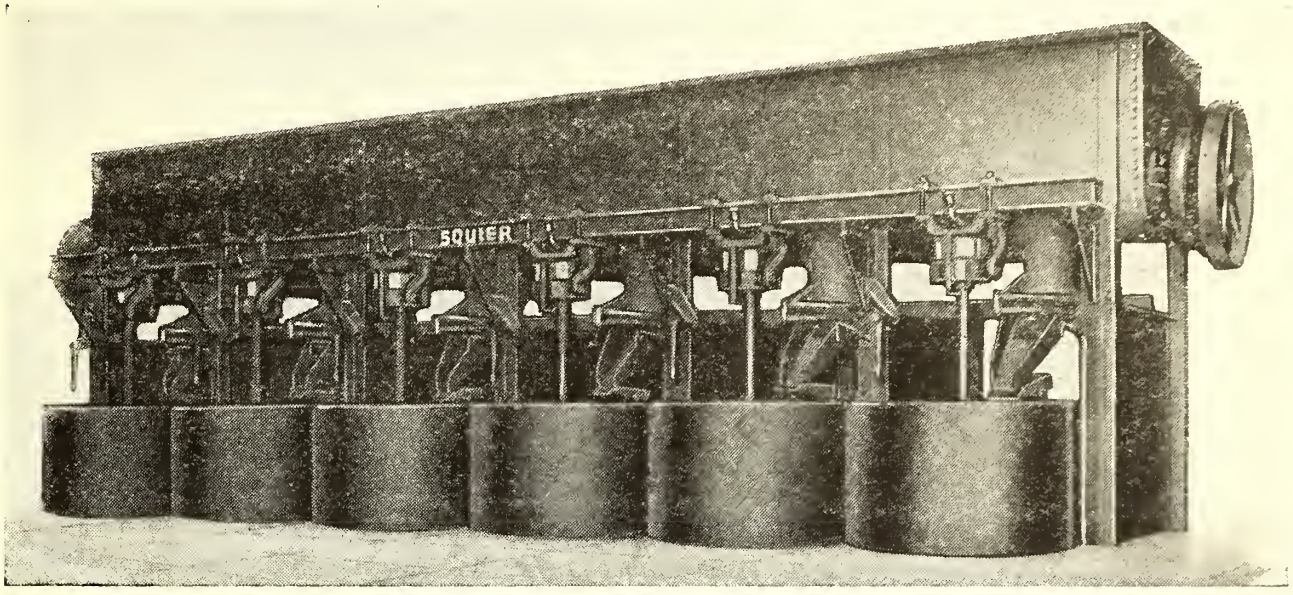


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becoming prevalent, but their effects were not severe as evidenced by an average yield of 20.3 tons which was about normal for these varieties. Although the weather conditions of 1922 were fairly favorable our yield was only 15.9 tons per acre, and I attribute the falling off in yield as being largely due to disease. The yield of 6.9 tons in 1923 was a combination of diseased cane with very unfavorable weather, and the yield of the old canes in 1924 and 1925 was about the same as in 1923.

Note the large acreage of cane that was needed as seed for the succeeding crops. Even under normal conditions when the old varieties of cane were free from disease, approximately 20 percent of the growing crop was needed to supply seed for the succeeding crop, and as diseases became worse the percentage necessary for seed increased.

I believe 1927 and 1928 are representative years for the P.O.J. canes.

| Year | Total acres in cane | Average yield per acre | Acres used as seed for succeeding crop |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | Tons | |
| 1927 | 2,660 | 19.0 | 190 |
| 1928 | 3,294 | 22.3 | 176 |

However 1927 was the year of the great flood and a portion of our crop was destroyed by overflow, which accounts for the relatively small acreage; but impaired drainage, due to high water, unquestionably affected our yield adversely to a certain extent on the acreage not entirely overflowed. I would say that the P.O.J. canes at their best could be windrowed when the severe cold weather was imminent.

You will note that with the advent of the P.O.J. canes the acreage necessary for seed decreased materially.

Now look at the figures for the years succeeding 1930:

| Year | Total acres in cane | Average yield per acre | Acres used as seed for succeeding crop |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | Tons | |
| 1931 | 2,996 | 17.2 | 202 |
| 1932 | 3,559 | 19.3 | 116 |
| 1933 | 2,984 | 19.7 | 209 |
| 1934 | 3,107 | 18.0 | 212 |
| 1935 | 3,082 | 22.3 | 160 |
| 1936 | 3,546 | 25.6 | 184 |

1931-32-33 represent largely the P.O.J. canes, but we are gradually introducing the Co. and C.P. canes as seed became available. In 1935 the production was largely from Co. and C.P. canes. In 1936 the production was exclusively, and our crop conditions today indicate a yield equal or better than 1936. Note the fact that the seed requirements from Co. and C.P. canes amount to roughly 5 percent of the acreage as contrasted with 20 percent when we were growing "the good old D-74." This 15 percent difference appears to me to be a 15 percent saving. The other advantages occurring are on the production side. Our present canes I am confident in average years will produce 25 percent or more tonnage per acre than the D-74 cane. This increase in production necessarily must stand an increased harvesting cost, but the present vigorous canes can be cultivated more economically, and the saving in cultivation roughly offsets the increased harvesting costs.

Previous to the introduction of the P.O.J. canes the sugar yield per ton in our factory approximated 150 pounds. Since the introduction of the P.O.J. canes our yield per ton has averaged 165 pounds. As you know, sugar yields per ton of cane vary according to factory efficiency and geographical location, but I would say this 10 percent increase in sugar yield per ton of cane at our factory fairly reflects conditions throughout the Louisiana sugar district, this increased yield as stated being due to the substitution of our present varieties.

There is one very pertinent fact that these figures do not show in comparing the 1921 yield of 20.3 tons with the 1936 yield of 25.6 tons. It is this: In 1921 and in years previous to that date we believed the so-called sandy lands in this area were the sugar lands. The cultivation of sugarcane was largely confined to the sandy lands which are better drained, easier to work, and under average conditions produce more tons of cane per acre than the black, heavy soil, where as a rule drainage is somewhat inferior. Our yield of 25.6 tons in 1936 was from all varieties of soil, black and sandy. All of our land today goes in cane production, of course, in rotation. If we planted our present varieties only on the soils where cane was planted in years previous to 1920, our average yield per acre in my opinion would be at least 30 tons. But the fact that we now have varieties of cane which will grow and grow abundantly on any acre of cleared land reasonably drained, in the sugar district of Louisiana, means an enormous increase in the actual cane acreage and in potential cane crops in Louisiana as compared with the maximum crops of the years prior to 1920.

The newer varieties of cane have also extended the sugar district to a point considerably north of Baton Rouge, due to the fact that certain of our new varieties will yield 150 pounds of sugar per ton by October 10-15. This early maturity gives the growers in the northern section of the belt a much better business proposition than they had formerly.

This thought (the last two paragraphs) merits more emphasis.

These new canes as a rule have heavy foliage, and the heavier foliage is a physical protection against cold weather. Also for some reason which I cannot explain, it may be due to the higher fiber, the rate of deterioration of our canes today after being subjected to frosts is not near so great as that shown by the old varieties.

Although you may think I have overstated the case and drawn too glowing a picture of cane production in Louisiana today, I feel that I have been reasonably conservative. As one who saw the failure of D-74, struggled to make it grow, and failed dismally to make it produce when it was riddled by disease; as one who saw the industry restored through the new canes given us by scientific plant breeders, and as one who must still make his living by growing sugarcane, the conditions under which we are now producing sugarcane are more than satisfactory from an agricultural standpoint; yet I know full well that as we stand today we cannot by any stretch of the imagination say we can compete with the Tropics. They, too, have their plant breeders, and through their plant breeders and other aids they also are producing sugar far cheaper today than formerly.

I do not, however, think that 25 tons of cane per acre and 165 pounds of sugar per ton represents tops

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of what we may eventually produce. I know of many planters who averaged 30 tons last year. I know of experimental plants that have produced as high as 8,000 pounds of sugar per acre. Better equipment, better agricultural practices, more intensive work as we accumulate working capital after paying our debts —all these things will further increase our production—that is, if we can get some permanent national program on a reasonable basis.

To sum up: A Louisiana sugar farmer prior to 1920 might reasonably expect to make 3,000 pounds of sugar per acre. Today his reasonable expectation is 4,200 pounds per acre on more acres and at less cost per acre. His cane being healthy the vagaries of weather have less effect in production, and his chances of making a normal crop are improved. He has a cane variety suited to his particular section of the sugar belt and to each variety of soil on his farm. He has a cane more resistant to the effects of low temperatures, and he has also a variety which he can windrow and thus protect himself against freezes. Moreover we feel sure better canes will be bred by the Bureau of Plant Industry in cooperation with the Louisiana Experiment Station. Their technique of breeding has been improved through experience, their ability to select good breeding stock is greater year by year. In their breeding plants today are thousands of new crosses and from some of these will come better varieties than we have in production today. Such stocks of new canes will be continually kept on tap to replace any variety that begins to decline, so we are assured we can never be reduced again to the unfortunate position we were in during the 1920's.

# Mosaic Control Work on the South Coast Properties

*(A paper by Mr. Emile A. Maier read at the meeting of the Contact Committee of the American Sugar Cane League held in Baton Rouge, La., June 18th, 1937).*

In November 1935 Co. 281 seed was selected at Delta Farms (Muck type of soil) by Mr. M. L. Shaffer for The South Coast Corporation and planted on various parts of the Ashland and Lower Terrebonne Divisions. Mr. Shaffer also selected and rogued some seed at Clovelly Farms to plant 10 acres of cane at Raceland Prairie.

With the cooperation of the Plant Pathology Department of the U.S.D.A. Houma Field Station, rogueing for mosaic was started April 29, 1936 at Raceland Prairie and continued at intervals until September 25. Rogueing was also done on about 75 acres planted with seed from Delta Farms scattered on the various plantation units. This rogueing was stopped in July when the spread of mosaic reached the 50% mark.

Rogueing at Raceland Prairie, 10 Acres Plant Cane, 1936.

All costs for labor only—no transportation nor supervision included.

| Date | % rogued | Man days | Cost | Cost/acre |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Apr. 29-30 | 1.5 | 8 | $ 9.70 | $ .97 |
| June 1 | 1.5 | 5 | 6.05 | .61 |
| June 18-19 | 2.0 | 8 | 9.70 | .97 |
| July 24-25-30 | 7.0 | 8.5 | 10.15 | 1.01 |
| Sept. 22/25 | 3.0 | 15.75 | 17.50 | 1.75 |
| Total Aprx. | 13/15 | 45.25 | 53.10 | 5.31 |

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at harvest this cane yielded 33 tons per acre with about 1% mosaic infestation. Cost of rogueing, 16.1c per ton.

Rogueing at Ranch Plantation, Ashland Division, 6 acres Plant Cane, 1936.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| May 13 | 1.5 | 3 | $ 3.85 | $ .64 |
| June 10-12-13 | 5/8 | 9 | 10.70 | 1.71 |
| | Less then | | | |
| June 25-26 | 10/30 | 1 ac. 9 | 10.90 | 12.00 |

No further rogueing. Infestation rose to 65%.

Rogueing on the other plantations was proportionate in cost. Mosaic infestation rose as high as 95%. Acreage selected on the plantations embraced, light, mixed and heavy lands. Some acreage locations were near the bayou, some adjacent to other Co. 281, some midway of the plantation fields, some near the woods, and some isolated near the woods on land which had never been planted to cane before. Lacache Plantation of the Lower Terrebonne Division with 28% final infestation seemed to have less spread than any other location. On this property field run Co. 281 usually suffers less mosaic infestation. In the majority of cases the Sharkey soils suffered less mosaic spread.

All of the cane from rogued fields was used for seed in the Fall of 1936. 20 acres of cane were planted on Raceland Prairie from seed which had been grown there and the balance of the cane from the original 10 acres was planted at Ashland and Georgia Divisions.

Control work in 1937 was started at Raceland Prairie April 27th when the 20 acres of Plant Cane were rogued. Because of the dry weather rogueing was discontinued until May 4th, when the 10 acres of stubble at Raceland Prairie were rogued and 1.57% of the stools removed. Since this rogueing, mosaic infestation has increased to approximately 15% and no further rogueing of stubble is contemplated.

On May 5th rogueing was started at Ashland. Some 50 acres of plant cane, seeded from the 10 acres field rogued at Raceland Prairie in 1936, were scheduled to be rogued on Ashland and Georgia Divisions.

Rogueing at Raceland Prairie, 20 acres Plant cane, 1937.

| Date | % rogued | Man days | Cost | Cost/acre |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Apr. 27-28 | 1.8 | 6 | $ 7.20 | $ .36 |
| May 20-21 | .44 | 6 | 6.30 | .315 |
| June 10-11 | .30 | 8 | 8.70 | .435 |

Per acre cost to date $1.11.

Rogueing at Plantations, 1937, Plant Cane.

| | | Ave. % rogued | Cost/acre |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1st rogueing started | May 5th | 2.0 | 30c to 45c |
| 2nd " " | " 22nd | 1.0 | 30c to 45c |
| 3rd " " | June 10th | 4 to 9 | 50c to $ 1 |

This 4 to 9% infestation June 10th is on a par with mosaic spread for 1936 at the same date. On June 12th rains stopped rogueing work. Since the spread is about the same as for 1936 it is doubtful that much more rogueing will be done on the plantations. Rogueing will be continued on Raceland Prairie.

All rogueing was done with a sharp shovel, using selected plantation help under the supervision of the writer. For the May rogueings, 1st & 2nd, the mother seed piece was removed. On man covered 2 to 4 acres per day. For the June or 3rd rogueing the stools only were removed. Stools were cut from the mother seed piece. One man covered ½ to 1½ acres depending upon the amount rogued out. July

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and subsequent rogueings require more men per acre, depending on the height and stand of cane as well as the amount of mosaic stools removed.

We have found that rogueing is effective to control mosaic on the muck soil at Raceland Prairie—not on the plantations.

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# Production of Sugar Beet Seed in West Increasing

Nearly 40 percent of the seed needed to plant the 1937 sugar beet crop was produced in five western states where sugar beet seed production has become a new industry, reports Dr. G. H. Coons, in charge of sugar beet investigations for the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The states are New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Nevada and California.

Until recently practically all of the 15 million pounds of seed needed annually was imported from Germany and other European countries. In the past three years an increasing amount of this seed has been home grown. More than 7½ million pounds produced last season were available for this year's planting. Indications are that the 1937 seed crop will be still larger.

Production of sugar beet seed on a commercial scale started in this country less than five years ago after scientists of the Bureau of Plant Industry working in cooperation with the New Mexico Experiment Station found that seed could be produced from sugar beets planted in the fall and allowed to over-winter in the field. Under the conventional method, as used in Europe, roots are harvested and stored in pit silos for planting the following spring. By eliminating this hand work, seed can be produced efficiently in the United States.

Sugar beet varieties which have been developed in this country are superior for our conditions to foreign varieties, particularly in that they are resistant to curly top, a disease that attacks non-resistant beets in the west. This year curly top resistant varieties were used almost exclusively in the inter-mountain areas and rather widely in the West Coast beet areas.

Beet seed is grown on irrigated lands of the southwest. The beets are planted early in September. The roots withstand the mild winters. The following spring the plants form seed-stalks, or "bolt".

Best seed yields have been obtained when the land was given a heavy application of manure previous to planting in early fall. This is followed in the spring by a heavy application of nitrogen fertilizer when the tops resume growth. The nitrogen results in heavier seed yields.

High seed yields from experimental plots, ranging from 2,000 to nearly 4,000 pounds to the acre, have been nearly equalled in many large commercial fields. On 5,240 acres planted for seed production in 1936, the average acre-yield was about 1,400 pounds.

Since the seed work was started government sugar beet breeders have released three varieties for use by farmers. First was U. S. No. 1, later replaced by U. S. No. 33 and U. S. No. 34. A large part of the seed grown last year and planted this year was of the last two varieties

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# The Maturing Qualities of the Newer Sugarcane Varieties

*By E. C. Simon, Assistant Sugarcane Investigator Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station*

The 1937 harvesting season is rapidly approaching and plans must soon be outlined for the harvesting operations. On a Louisiana sugar plantation plantings for this year's harvest may consist of from several to all of the newer commercial varieties. The question necessarily arises in the planter's mind of just what type of maturity may be expected from each variety; i. e., whether a variety is very early, comparatively early, or from mid-season to late season in maturity.

Although each variety of sugarcane matures in a relatively definite manner under conditions conducive to growth and maturity, no set rule can be made as to just how each will perform under the growing and maturing conditions of a given season. The reason for this is evident when one considers the facts that the various canes are planted on different types of soil and that their growth and manner of maturity are dependent on several variables. These are: the soil type; the fertility of the soil, which is not the same even from cut to cut on a plantation, but varies with previous soil building and tilth promoting practices; the cultivation practices; and the climatic conditions during the growing and maturing seasons.

A variety classified as very early in maturity may mature considerably later than anticipated because of improper soil preparation, unsatisfactory cultivation practices or unfavorable climatic conditions, or a combination of these three factors. On the other hand, a variety classified as from mid-season to late-season in maturity may be comparatively early on soils of low fertility, or under conditions favorable for early maturity.

At the Louisiana Sugar Experiment Station varieties are handled in such a manner as to allow each to grow and mature under as favorable growing conditions as possible. The soil fertility is maintained through the judicious use of legumes; the seed bed is properly prepared before planting; and good cultivation practices are followed. One variety does not have an undue advantage over another and therefore the records of performance are directly comparable. Such records of performance of the newer commercial canes are available for the entire time these canes have been under observation and test. From their records the newer commercial varieties may be classified into three groups: those very early in maturity; those similar to P.O.J. 234 in maturity; and those from mid-season to late-season in maturity.

In the very early maturing class are placed C.P. 29-320 and C.P. 28-19. The records of these varieties show that both are very early in maturity. C.P. 29-320 has consistently been about two weeks earlier than P.O.J. 234. C.P. 28-19, though sometimes as early in maturity as C.P. 29-320, has not shown over a period of years the consistent earliness of that variety. With the advancing season, however, C.P. 28-19 has given higher sucrose analyses than C.P. 29-320.

Where growth has been retarded by heaviness of the soil type or low fertility of the soil, C.P. 28-19 has often been equally as early, and in a few instances even earlier in maturity than C.P. 39-320.

In general, the records show that at the Louisiana Sugar Experiment Station, C.P. 29-320 has been consistently very early in maturity, while C.P. 28-19 has been from early to very early in maturity.

In the second class, the variety C.P. 28-11 has given a type of maturity very similar to that of P.O.J. 234, ranging from not quite as early to as early as that variety. When grown under conditions conducive to maximum yields, maturity has been not quite as early; when grown under conditions tending to reduce tonnage, maturity has been as early.

Co. 281 may be classified as mid-season in maturity, while Co. 290 and C.P. 807 may be classified as from mid-season to late-season. At Baton Rouge on soils that give heavy yields there has been a tendency for Co. 290 and C.P. 807 to show a late-season type of maturity; on soils of much lower fertility these canes have shown a mid-season type of maturity. Preliminary data on C.P. 29-116 indicate that the performance of this cane has been similar to that of Co. 290 and C.P. 807.

## Varietal Performance at Baton Rouge During the 1936 Season

The season of 1936 at the Louisiana Sugar Experiment Station was unfavorable for early maturity. A prolonged drouth during the entire month of June retarded growth considerably. Following the unfavorable growing conditions of June, growth conditions became favorable and continued so throughout the remainder of the growing season. The climatic conditions in late September and early October were not conducive to very early maturity.

Under the conditions of growth and maturity that prevailed during 1936, the newer commercial varieties varied quite widely in the manner of their maturing. Comparative analyses of first year stubble cane and plant cane are given in Tables I and II.

The data presented in these tables illustrate the manner in which the newer commercial varieties matured at the Louisiana Sugar Experiment Station during the 1936 harvesting season. The type of maturity of each of these varieties has been similar over a period of years, except in the cases of Co. 290 and C.P. 807, which on very fertile soils have given a somewhat later type of maturity than shown by the above analyses.

(Continued on Page 24)

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TABLE I
Comparative Analyses of First Year Stubble Cane
1936

| Date | P. O. J. 234 Brix | Sucrose | Purity | Av. Extr. | C. P. 28-19 Brix | Sucrose | Purity | Av. Extr. | C. P. 28-11 Brix | Sucrose | Purity | Av. Extr. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10/1 | 13.30 | 8.40 | 63.16 | 71.68% | 14.30 | 9.96 | 69.65 | 70.73% | 13.00 | 8.28 | 63.69 | 69.28% |
| 10/14 | 14.15 | 9.87 | 69.75 | | 15.05 | 11.06 | 73.49 | | 14.10 | 9.80 | 69.50 | |
| 10/31 | 15.15 | 11.39 | 75.18 | | 16.80 | 13.41 | 79.82 | | 15.40 | 11.09 | 72.01 | |
| 11/16 | 16.05 | 12.95 | 80.69 | | 18.20 | 14.79 | 81.26 | | 17.00 | 13.02 | 76.59 | |
| 12/1 | 15.85 | 12.28 | 77.48 | | 17.65 | 14.67 | 83.12 | | 16.80 | 12.42 | 73.93 | |

| Date | C. P. 29-320 Brix | Sucrose | Purity | Av. Extr. | Co. 281 Brix | Sucrose | Purity | Av. Extr. | Co. 290 Brix | Sucrose | Purity | Av. Extr. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10/2 | 14.10 | 9.52 | 67.52 | 70.85% | 11.30 | 6.47 | 57.25 | 73.34% | 12.80 | 8.57 | 66.95 | 72.81% |
| 10/14 | 15.90 | 12.12 | 76.23 | | 12.25 | 7.66 | 62.53 | | 13.25 | 9.07 | 68.45 | |
| 10/31 | 16.05 | 12.65 | 78.82 | | 14.70 | 10.80 | 73.47 | | 15.10 | 11.03 | 73.05 | |
| 11/16 | 17.50 | 14.45 | 82.57 | | 15.10 | 12.09 | 80.07 | | 17.00 | 13.37 | 78.65 | |
| 12/1 | 17.85 | 14.48 | 81.12 | | 16.15 | 12.65 | 78.33 | | 16.55 | 13.41 | 81.03 | |

| Date | C. P. 807 Brix | Sucrose | Purity | Av. Extr. | C. P. 29-116 Brix | Sucrose | Purity | Av. Extr. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10/2 | 12.00 | 7.54 | 62.83 | 72.47% | 12.80 | 7.84 | 61.25 | 76.60% |
| 10/14 | 13.00 | 9.27 | 71.31 | | 13.60 | 8.90 | 65.44 | |
| 10/31 | 13.50 | 9.71 | 71.93 | | 14.80 | 10.43 | 70.48 | |
| 11/16 | 14.55 | 11.29 | 77.59 | | 16.05 | 12.07 | 75.20 | |
| 12/1 | 14.95 | 11.59 | 77.53 | | 16.25 | 12.26 | 75.45 | |

TABLE II
Comparative Analyses of Plant Cane
1936

| Date | P. O. J. 234 Brix | Sucrose | Purity | Av. Extr. | C. P. 28-19 Brix | Sucrose | Purity | Av. Extr. | C. P. 28-11 Brix | Sucrose | Purity | Av. Extr. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10/2 | 13.20 | 8.55 | 64.77 | 73.42% | 11.60 | 6.43 | 55.43 | 72.44% | 12.60 | 7.20 | 57.14 | 71.11% |
| 10/14 | 14.50 | 10.05 | 69.31 | | 13.20 | 8.34 | 63.18 | | 13.45 | 8.59 | 63.87 | |
| 10/31 | 15.00 | 11.40 | 76.00 | | 15.70 | 11.56 | 73.63 | | 15.45 | 11.03 | 71.39 | |
| 11/16 | 15.95 | 12.76 | 80.00 | | 16.55 | 12.99 | 78.49 | | 16.55 | 12.33 | 74.50 | |
| 11/27 | 16.10 | 12.29 | 76.34 | | 18.10 | 14.08 | 77.79 | | 17.10 | 12.78 | 74.74 | |

| Date | C. P. 29-320 Brix | Sucrose | Purity | Av. Extr. | Co. 281 Brix | Sucrose | Purity | Av. Extr. | Co. 290 Brix | Sucrose | Purity | Av. Extr. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10/2 | 14.00 | 9.46 | 67.57 | 72.55% | 12.60 | 5.79 | 45.95 | 74.84% | 11.60 | 6.81 | 58.71 | 76.79% |
| 10/14 | 15.10 | 10.91 | 72.25 | | 13.60 | 6.63 | 48.75 | | 12.25 | 7.48 | 61.06 | |
| 10/31 | 16.10 | 11.74 | 72.92 | | 12.60 | 8.26 | 65.56 | | 14.00 | 9.57 | 68.36 | |
| 11/16 | 16.75 | 13.25 | 79.10 | | 14.45 | 10.35 | 71.63 | | 15.85 | 11.88 | 74.95 | |
| 11/27 | 16.70 | 12.75 | 76.35 | | 15.50 | 11.49 | 74.13 | | 15.90 | 11.55 | 72.64 | |

| Date | C. P. 807 Brix | Sucrose | Purity | Av. Extr. | C. P. 29-116 Brix | Sucrose | Purity | Av. Extr. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10/2 | 12.30 | 7.54 | 61.30 | 72.20% | 11.60 | 6.06 | 52.24 | 74.82% |
| 10/14 | 12.30 | 8.05 | 65.45 | | 12.50 | 7.53 | 60.24 | |
| 10/31 | 14.45 | 10.88 | 75.29 | | 14.70 | 9.89 | 67.28 | |
| 11/16 | 14.65 | 10.86 | 74.13 | | 15.55 | 11.04 | 71.00 | |
| 11/27 | 16.60 | 13.07 | 78.74 | | 16.00 | 11.12 | 69.50 | |


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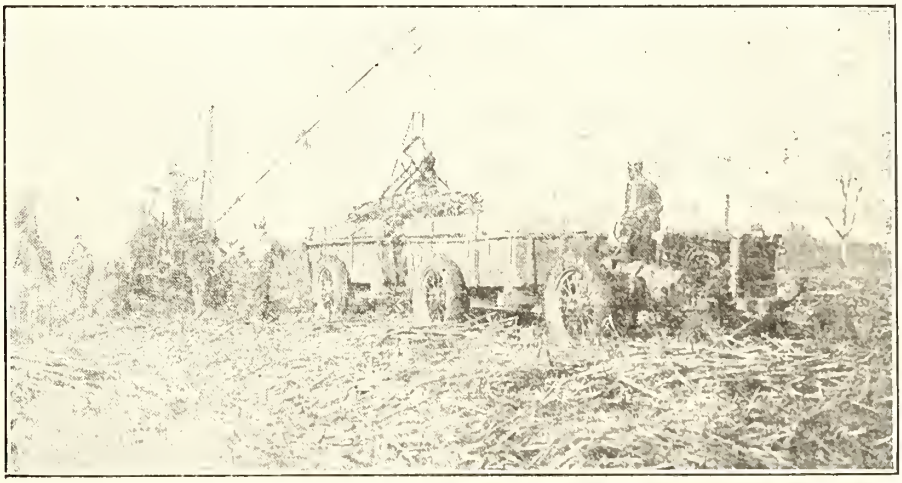

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# A Review of the Steps Leading Up to the Recent Sugar Legislation

*(By C. J. Bourg)*

At the beginning of the Session of Congress, Senator Overton of Louisiana and Congressman Mouton ofof Louisiana introduced a bill which provided benefit payments and also provided unlimited production of sugar in continental United States until the production exceeded ⅓ of the consumption of sugar in the United States, which amounts practically to unlimited production.

On March 1st President Roosevelt sent a message to Congress asking that the principles of the Jones-Costigan Act be re-enacted. Immediately following this message, bills were introduced by Congressman Jones of Texas in the House and Senators O'Mahoney of Wyoming and Adams of Colorado in the Senate. These bills were identical and were admitted to have been prepared in the Sugar Section A.A.A. These bills sought to carry out the recommendations of the President and it is now very interesting to note that they provided the same restrictions on refined sugar from Hawaii and Puerto Rico as had been enforced under the Jones-Costigan Act.

The House Committee on Agriculture appointed a Sub-committee to hold hearings on the Jones Bill. The hearings were prolonged and everyone was given full opportunity to appear, which was taken advantage of by all areas. It was striking, however, that no Department of Agriculture witnesses appeared at a *public hearing*. It has been the custom of Congress to have the Department interested present the reasons and justifications for any Administration proposal. Nevertheless, none of the very involved and intricate provisions of the Sugar Bill were explained by government witnesses, although some members of the Sub-committee asked for an explanation. After the public hearings had been closed, Secretary Hull was heard on Cuba and foreign affairs, and other witnesses from the various Departments appeared, all in Executive Session. There is no printed record of their testimony or their answers to questions asked. Finally, Secretary Wallace sent to the Sub-committee a new bill, which we refer to as the Departmental Draft.

This Departmental Draft was the first notice we had of any desire on the part of the Departments to permit Hawaii and Puerto Rico to bring in their full quota in the form of refined sugar. It was also the first notice we had that the Department of Agriculture wanted Congress to insert a mandatory provision requiring the Secretary of Agriculture to make the production of sugarcane and sugar beets as "profitable" as the five principal agricultural crops. It was also the first notice we had that three Departments of the Federal Government had formed a combination to demand the Departmental Draft be adopted.

The Sub-committee rejected the Departmental Draft and made its own recommendations. The House Committee on Agriculture then took charge of the Bill and after interminable delays and conferences, during which Chairman Marvin Jones tried to compose the differences between the industry and the Departments, the Committee finally reported the compromise Bill which rejected the more drastic recommendations of the Departments and yielded to most of the contentions of the industry. It should be stated that many concessions were made to the Department of State with regard to the treatment of Cuba and the earmarking of the Philippine deficit for the use of Secretary Hull in making reciprocal trade agreements with foreign countries other than Cuba.

There was a considerable fight on the Floor of the House, but all amendments were rejected except those amendments which the Committee had recommended. In the case of the restrictions on refined sugar from Hawaii and Puerto Rico, Chairman Jones offered the amendment desired by the Departments removing such restrictions and pleaded with the House to adopt it. But this appeal was voted down. Finally, the House voted 165 to 55 in favor of the Sugar Bill as reported by the Committee. It will be noted that this vote was ¾ in favor and ¼ against.

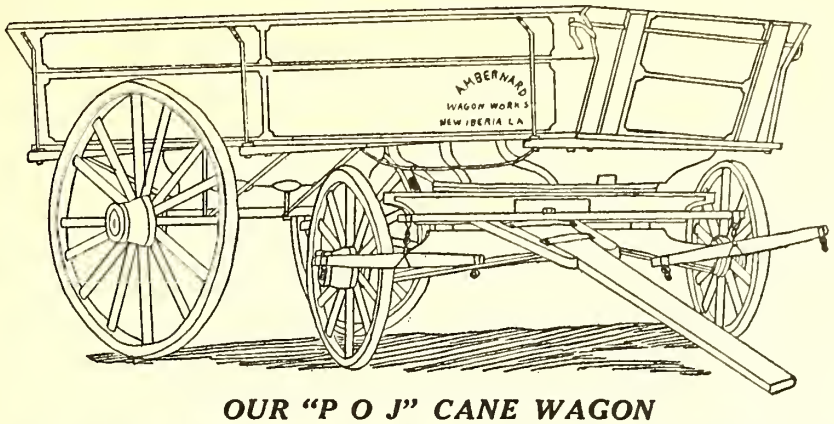
The day following the House action, the Senate Finance Committee called hearings on the Bill and it became immediately evident that the Senate Committee was in favor of the Bill as it passed the House. All attempts to amend the House Bill were rejected by the Committee, excepting in three particulars:

1. The Senate Committee decided to eliminate the complaint of so-called discrimination against Hawaii and Puerto Rico by placing refined sugar quotas on all domestic areas, but without changing the *amount* of refined sugar which could be brought in by Hawaii and Puerto Rico.
2. The Committee rejected the five-principal-crop yardstick as a measure of profitable operation for growers of sugar beets and sugarcane, and inserted in lieu thereof a yardstick based upon the comparison between the price of sugar and the price of other foods. Each of these provisions provided protection for the consumer.
3. The tax on blackstrap molasses used for distillation of alcohol was rejected.

The Senate Committee unanimously reported the Bill, as amended. The President thereupon wrote a letter to the Committee demanding that all restrictions on refined sugar from Hawaii and Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands be removed. The Committee held another meeting to consider the President's letter and voted to persist in their previous report, insisting that Congress must remain the "legislative body."

The Senate adopted the three amendments recommended by the Finance Committee and rejected all other amendments. Florida sought to establish a State quota for itself in six or seven different ways, but all such amendments were overwhelmingly re-

(Continued on Page 28)

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jected. It was significant that no Senator took the floor to advocate or defend the Administration's position on refined sugar.

The Senate passed the Bill without a record vote and as far as we could tell, with only the two Florida Senators voting against it. Then, in view of the disagreeing votes on the three amendments enumerated above, the House asked that a Conference Committee be appointed to compose these differences. The Committee reached a compromise on refined sugar by leaving the amounts as they were, but providing for a termination of the refined sugar restrictions against Hawaii and Puerto Rico as of date March 1, 1940, although the general provisions of the Act expire December 31, 1940, and the tax levied under the Act expires on June 30, 1941. With respect to the consumer amendment and the price control yardstick, the Conference Committee adopted a compromise rejecting both other yardsticks and leaving it discretionary with the Secretary of Agriculture as to whether he will provide additional allowances of sugar above the quotas in order to prevent excessive prices to the consumer; but requiring the Secretary in so doing to recognize a price which is ncessary "to maintain the domestic sugar industry as a whole." The blackstrap tax was stricken out entirely.

The Senate adopted the Conference Committee report the same afternoon without dissenting votes, except those of Florida. The House took up the Conference Report the next day. After considerable debate, the opposition asked for a roll call but did not have sufficient strength to force it and on a division vote the Report was adopted by 198 to 23, which is about 10 to 1.

After the House and Senate passed the Sugar Bill by overwhelming majorities it became a question of the President signing the Bill despite the objections of the Federal Departments. The President received pleas from the elected Delegate representing Puerto Rico in Congress, from the Cuban sugar Industry, from individuals and groups in all sugar producing States and in Puerto Rico and Cuba. As a matter of fact the only irreconcilables were the Department of Interior and Hawaii. Even Secretary of State Hull and Secretary of Agriculture Wallace are reported to have told the President that he should sign the Bill. And he did, on September 1st, which becomes the effective date of the Act for all purposes, including the tax.

As already reported in the *Sugar Bulletin* the effectiveness of the United Louisiana Congressional Delegation was encouraging in the extreme and produced results in the face of tremendous difficulties. It must not be forgotten that the Department of Agriculture recommended for Louisiana and Florida only 360,000 tons as a quota. Our delegation was able to have that amount improved to 420,000 tons. But in so doing, they were without the support of Florida; in fact, Florida assumed a defeatist attitude throughout and used every known means of ridiculing, obstructing and attempting to prevent the passage of the Sugar Bill. This naturally increased the difficulties for and the work of our Delegation, because they were without the support of Members of Congress who should have been helping, but who instead were actually jeopardizing the increase which Louisiana *alone* secured for the Continental Cane Area. The honor roll includes all Members of the Congressional Delegation, under the leadership of Mr. DeRouen, as Dean of the Delegation. In the Senate both of our Senators participated in the hearings and Senator Overton was accorded the privilege of questioning the Florida witnesses and the Department witnesses, although he was not a Member of the Finance Committee. On the Floor most of the debate was on the amendments offered by Florida to establish a separate State quota, and again both of our Senators not only met these arguments but attained for Louisiana a position of greater security and loyalty in the minds of the representatives of the beet sugar producing States. Even after Congress had passed a Bill, our Senators and Congressmen continued their efforts, with Senator Ellender being a Member of the Committee of three which finally prevailed upon the President to change his mind about vetoing the Bill but to sign it, with "reservations" as to the future.

The rules and regulations through which the Sugar Act will be applied in the field, are now in course of preparation. Therefore it is impossible to discuss the exact plan and procedure that will be used by the Secretary of Agriculture in carrying out the provisions of the Act. But in view of the fact that planting is now going on in Louisiana, which fact is well known to the Secretary, it is confidently anticipated that the rules and regulations as to acreage allotments and fair price determination will be adopted and published in a relatively short time.


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# Puerto Rican Increase Put In Sugar Reserve

(*Release by U. S. Department of Agriculture, Sept. 2nd,* 1937)

The Agricultural Adjustment Administration announced today that the increase of 9,446 short tons, raw value, in the Puerto Rican quota under the new sugar act will be treated as an addition to the existing unallotted sugar reserve for Puerto Rico pending its allotment to individual Puerto Rican mills.

# Secretary Wallace Announces Quotas Under New Sugar Act

(*Release by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Sept. 2nd,* 1937)

Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace signed today the first of the sugar quota regulations under the new sugar act, approved by the President yesterday. The total sugar consumption requirements of the continental United States for the calendar year 1937 were determined in accordance with the provisions of the new act, to be 7,042,733 short tons, raw value. This compares with the final total of 6,812,687 short tons, raw value, established in 1936 and the initial amount for 1937 established last December of 6,682,670 short tons, raw value.

The quotas became effective today with the signing by Secretary Wallace of General Sugar Quota Regulations, Series 4, No. 2. The quotas are retroactive to January 1, 1937, and any charges against the quotas previously made under the old Jones-Costigan Act remain as charges against the newly established quotas.

The quotas for the different areas as now established compare with the quotas heretofore in effect as follows:

| Area | 1937 Quotas under "Sugar Act of 1937" (Short tons, raw value) | 1937 Quotas under Jones-Costigan Act (Short tons, raw value) |
|---|---|---|
| Continental beets | 1,633,361 | 1,613,576 |
| Continental cane | 442,793 | 270,664 |
| Hawaii | 988,551 | 976,685 |
| Puerto Rico | 840,954 | 831,508 |
| Virgin Islands | 9,396 | 5,462 |
| Philippine Islands | 1,085,304 | 1,035,742 |
| Cuba | 2,014,538 | 1,922,423 |
| Foreign countries other than Cuba[1] | 27,610 | 26,610 |

Of the total 1937 quotas, the following amounts from each area may be brought in as direct-consumption sugar:

| Area | Quotas under "Sugar act of 1937" (Short tons, raw value) | Quotas under Jones-Costigan Act (Short tons, raw value) |
|---|---|---|
| Cuba | 375,000 | 422,933 |
| Philippine Islands | 80,214 | 80,214 |
| Puerto Rico | 126,033 | 126,033 |
| Territory of Hawaii | 29,616 | 29,616 |

No sugar can be brought in from the Virgin Islands in the form of direct-consumption sugar.

[1]The 1937 sugar quotas for individual foreign countries other than Cuba are fixed in the regulations at the same amounts heretofore in effect and the unallotted reserve has been increased slightly.

# Secretary Wallace Reallots 1937 Philippine Sugar Quota Deficit to Countries Other than Cuba.

(*Released Sept. 10th,* 1937 *by U. S. Dept. of Agriculture*).

Secretary Wallace today reallotted the 1937 Philippine sugar deficit of 86,805 short tons, raw value, to foreign countries, other than Cuba, on the basis of the proration of the quotas in effect for such countries pursuant to Section 204(a) of the Sugar Act of 1937.

The Tydings-McDuffie Act (Philippine Independence Act) establishes the amount of sugar which may be admitted into the United States free of duty from the Philippines during any calendar year at 800,000 long tons of unrefined sugar and 50,000 long tons of refined sugar (equivalent to about 985,000 short tons, raw value, on the basis of the estimated polarization of 1937). A quantity of 13,499 short tons of Philippine 1936 duty free sugar which did not clear customs custody until after January 1, 1937, and is therefore chargeable against the 1937 quota for the Philippines, cannot be counted against the 1937 duty free quota. Consequently, 998,499 short tons of sugar may enter the United States duty free in 1937 against the 1937 Philippine quota of 1,085,304 short tons, raw value, leaving 86,805 short tons on which the full rate of duty of 1.875 cents per pound would be paid if entered from the Philippine Islands in 1937. Official advices from the Philippines indicate the Islands will not avail themselves of the privilege of


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shipping the full duty sugar remaining in their quota.

The present 1937 quotas for foreign countries, other than Cuba, as established by Supplements 1 and 2 of General Sugar Quota Regulations, Series 4, No. 2, are as follows:

| Country | Quotas established pursuant to Sec. 204 (b) of the Act | Increase from Philippine Islands deficiency pursuant to Sec. 204 (a) of the Act | 1937 Revised Quotas* |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | (In pounds, raw value) | |
| Argentina | 0† | 0 | 0 |
| Australia | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Belgium | 629,055 | 2,208,237 | 2,837,292 |
| Brazil | 132 | 463 | 595 |
| British Malaya | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Canada | 1,205,934 | 4,233,314 | 5,439,248 |
| China and Hongkong | 274,484 | 963,549 | 1,238,033 |
| Colombia | 571 | 2,004 | 2,575 |
| Costa Rica | 44,024 | 154,542 | 198,566 |
| Czechoslovakia | 562,782 | 1,975,592 | 2,538,374 |
| Dominican Republic | 14,253,232 | 50,034,589 | 64,287,821 |
| Dutch East Indies | 451,813 | 1,586,046 | 2,037,859 |
| Dutch West Indies | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| France | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Germany | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Guatemala | 332,754 | 1,168,101 | 1,500,855 |
| Haiti, Republic of | 921,022 | 3,233,158 | 4,154,180 |
| Honduras | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Italy | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Japan | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Mexico | 299,060 | 1,049,821 | 1,348,881 |
| Netherlands | 465,665 | 1,634,672 | 2,100,337 |
| Nicaragua | 5,510,500 | 19,344,076 | 24,854,576 |
| Peru | 23,755,315 | 83,390,729 | 107,146,044 |
| Salvador | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| United Kingdom | 749,517 | 2,631,107 | 3,380,624 |
| Venezuela | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Subtotal | 49,455,860 | | 223,065,860 |
| Unallotted reserve | 6,216,140 | | 6,216,140 |
| TOTAL | 55,672,000 | 173,610,000 | 229,282,000 |

*Does not include the first ten short tons of sugar or liquid sugar imported from any foreign country, other than Cuba, in any calendar year established in Section 212 of the Sugar Act of 1937.

†The countries whose quotas are given as zero were assigned quotas for 1937. Because of the fact that they did not fill any of their quotas by September 1, 1937, these quotas were taken from them, in accordance with Section 204(b) of the Sugar Act of 1937, and reassigned to countries which had filled their quotas by September 1.

# Certification Required for Entry of 1937 Cuban Direct Consumption Sugar.

(*Release by U. S. Dept. of Agriculture Sept.* 4, 1937).

The Sugar Section of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration announced today that the Cuban direct consumption quota of 375,000 short tons of sugar, raw value, established by the Sugar Act of 1937, is nearing exhaustion.

All Collectors of Customs have been advised that, Effective September 6, 1937, they should not permit the entry of any further Cuban direct consumption sugars into the continental United States for consumption therein during 1937 until the Sugar Section of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration has issued certification to the Collector that such sugars are within the 1937 Cuban direct consumption quota.

# Mechanical Sugarcane Cutters Developed In Hawaii Successful.

It was stated on July 8th, 1937, by the Honolulu Chamber of Commerce that the outstanding news in industrial circles in the Hawaiian Islands during the past month was the announcement of successful tests of three mechanical types of sugarcane cutters developed on the Island plantations. While these machines are still in the exprimental stage, sugar industry officials say they have demonstrated that cane can be cut successfully by machinery in Hawaii.

# Advertising of Cuban Sugarcane As Source of Cellulose Proposed.

A motion providing for the publishing of propaganda intended to attract the attention of world industries to a type of Cuban sugarcane (cana brava), which is described as a rich source of various types of cellulose, was offered before the Provincial Council of Pinar del Rio, according to a recent press item. The motion calls attention to the fact that cellulose for a great variety of modern industries, including the manufacture of photographic films, many types of cellulose plastics used in the production of toys, combs, ornaments, containers, etc., paints and lacquers, paper, flexible glass, nitrocellulose, artificial silk, artificial leather, and others, can be extracted from this type of cane. The motion provides for the publication of booklets in English, Spanish, French and German describing the possibilities of this Cuban product; and it establishes a fund to defray the costs of the advertising.

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